

INDIAN RECORDS SERIES

ST WILLIAM—INDIA HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE

AND OTHER CONTEMPORARY PAPERS  
RELATING THERETO

(PUBLIC SERIES)

VOL. XI. 1789-92

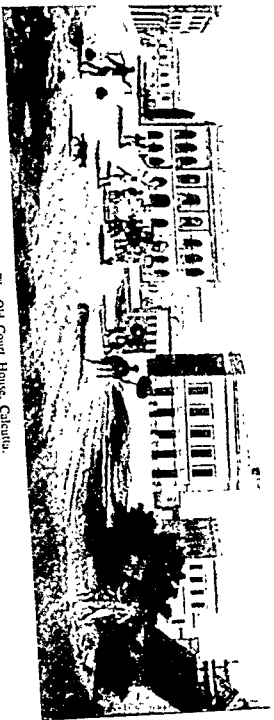
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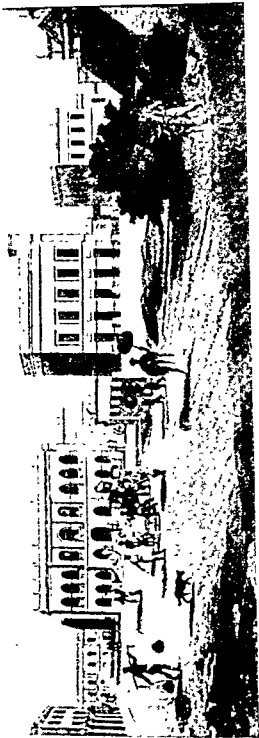
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EDITED BY  
I.B.BANERJEE

PUBLISHED FOR THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA  
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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL LINES, DELHI  
1974



The Old Court House, Calcutta.  
(Demolished in 1792)



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INDIAN RECORDS SERIES

GENERAL EDITOR: S. N. PRASAD

## GENERAL EDITOR'S PREFACE

The present volume, which is eleventh in numerical order in the *Fort William—India House Correspondence* series, contains the letters exchanged between the Governor-General in Council at Fort William in Bengal and the Court of Directors of the East India Company in London during the period 1789-92. The letters belong to the Public Department and deal with miscellaneous topics. Growth of the Company's interests outside India, developments concerning the Dak service, part p'ayed by private capital in the Company's economic affairs, financial relations between the Bengal Government and the Governments of Bombay and Madras, and the Company's enterprises for the increase of historical, geographical and scientific knowledge, are some of the significant topics covered in the correspondence. It is hoped the volume will prove useful to those interested in historical research.

I am thankful to the Surveyor General of India and the Calcutta Historical Society for permission to reproduce from their publications some of the illustrations included in this volume.

My thanks are also due to my colleagues in Publication I Branch of this Department, particularly to Shrimati Radha Bardhan and Shri S. N. Sharma, who scrutinised the manuscript and attended to other work connected with the publication of the volume under the supervision, for most of the time, of Shri D. L. Kaka as Archivist-in-charge and later as Assistant Director.

*National Archives of India,  
New Delhi,  
10 September, 1973.*

S. N. PRASAD  
*Director of Archives,  
Government of India*

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## PRESIDENTS OF THE BOARD OF CONTROL<sup>1</sup> 1789—92

	Date of Letters Patent
Sydney, Rt Hon Baron (Later Viscount Sydney)	4 September 1784
Grenville, Rt Hon W W (Later Baron Grenville)	6 March 1790

## CHAIRMEN AND DEPUTY CHAIRMEN OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY<sup>2</sup> 1789—92

Period	Chairman	Deputy Chairman
April 1788 March 1789	Devaynes, William	Lushington, Stephen
April 1789 March 1790	Lushington, Stephen	Devaynes, William
April, 1790-March 1791	Burgess, John Smith	Baring Francis
April 1791-March 1792	Baring, Francis	Burgess, John Smith
April 1792-March 1793	Devaynes, William	Cheap, Thoms

## DIRECTORS OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY<sup>3</sup> 1789-92

Baring, Francis	1779-82 1784-7, 1789-92, 1794-8, 1799-1802, 1804-7, 1809-10
Bensley, William	1781-4, 1786-9, 1791-4, 1796-9, 1801-4 1806-9
Bosanquet, Jacob	1782-3, 1785-8, 1790-3, 1795-9, 1800-3 1805-8, 1810-3, 1815-8, 1820-3, 1825-6
Burgess, John Smith	1773-4, 1776-9, 1781-4, 1786-9, 1791-4, 1796-9, 1801-3
Cheap, Thomas	1777-8, 1780-3, 1785-8, 1790-3,
Darell, Lionel	1780-3, 1785-8, 1790-3, 1795-8, 1800-3
Devaynes, William	1770-5, 1777-80, 1782-5, 1787-90, 1792-5 1797-1800, 1802-5
Elphinstone, William Fullarton	1786-9, 1791-4, 1796-1804, 1806-9, 1811-4, 1816-9, 1821-4,
Ewer, Walter	1790, 1792-4

1 The particulars given here and in the lists that follow are based on *Record of Services of the Honourable East India Company's Civil Servants in the Madras Presidency, 1741-1858* (London 1885) compiled by Charles C. Prinsep. *Alphabetical List of Directors of the East India Company from 1758 to 1858* compiled by C. H. & D. Phillips and Published in the *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society* October 1941 and *List of the Heads of Administration in India and of the India Office in England* (Imperial Record Department, 1939)

2 Normally appointed each April

3 At each election in April  $x$  Directors were chosen for four years in the place of  $x$  going out by rotation. In the event of death or retirement of a Director his successor took over the unexpired term of office. In this list the figures indicate the years of election.

# DIRECTORS OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY

Fitzhugh, Thomas . . . . .	1785-90, 1792-5, 1797-9,
Fraser, Simon . . . . .	1791-92, 1793, 1801; 1803-6.
Hunter, John . . . . .	1781-4, 1786-9, 1791-4, 1796-9 1801-2
Inglis, Hugh . . . . .	1784-7, 1789-92, 1794-7, 1799-1802 1804-7, 1809-12.
Le Mesurier, Paul . . . . .	1784-7, 1789-92, 1794-1802, 1804-5.
Lushington, Stephen . . . . .	1782-5, 1787-90, 1792-5, 1797-1800, 1802-5.
Manship, John . . . . .	1755-8, 1762-65, 1767-77, 1779-82, 1784-7, 1789-92, 1794-7, 1799-1802, 1804-7, 1809.
Metcalf, Thomas Theophilus . . . . .	1789-92, 1794-1802, 1804-7, 1809-12.
Mills, Charles . . . . .	1785-86, 1788-91, 1793-1801, 1803-6, 1808-11, 1813-14.
Moffat, James . . . . .	1774-7, 1779-82, 1784-5, 1787-90.
Money, William . . . . .	1789-92, 1794-5.
Parry, Thomas . . . . .	1781-6, 1788-91, 1793-1801, 1803-6.
Pattle, Thomas . . . . .	1787-90, 1792-4.
Roberts, Abraham . . . . .	1786-91, 1793-6, 1798-1801, 1803-6 1808-11, 1813-5.
Roberts, John . . . . .	1764-67, 1769-72, 1775-8, 1780-3, 1785-8 1790-3, 1795-1803, 1805-8.
Scott, David . . . . .	1788-91, 1793-1801.
Smith, John . . . . .	see Burgess, John Smith.
Smith, Nathaniel . . . . .	1774-5, 1777-80, 1782-5, 1787-90, 1792-4
Sparkes, Joseph . . . . .	1773-74, 1776-9, 1781-4, 1786-9.
Tatam, George . . . . .	1772-74, 1776-9, 1781-4, 1876-91 1793-1801.
Thornton, Robert . . . . .	1787-8, 1790-3, 1795-8, 1800-3, 1805-8, 1810-3.
Townson, John . . . . .	1781-3, 1785-8, 1790-3, 1795-6.
Travers, John . . . . .	1786-9, 1791-4, 1796-1804, 1806-9.
Williams, Stephen . . . . .	1790-94, 1796-9, 1801-4.
Woodhouse, John . . . . .	1768-71, 1773-6, 1778-81, 1784-6, 1788 90.



## GOVERNOR GENERAL OF FORT WILLIAM, BENGAL 1789—92

Earl Cornwallis . . . . 12 September 1786-10 October 1793.

*Also Commander-in-Chief)*

## MEMBERS OF BOARD, FORT WILLIAM, BENGAL 1789—92

Stuart, Hon. Charles . . . . 12 September 1786—21 January 1793.

Speke, Peter . . . . 17 September 1789—2 October 1801.

Cowper, William . . . . 6 November 1790—25 February 1801.

## GOVERNORS OF THE PRESIDENCY OF FORT ST. GEORGE

1789—92

Campbell, Maj. Gen. Sir Archibald 6 April 1786—6 February. 1789.  
(*Also Commander-in-Chief*)

Holland, John . . . . 7 February 1789—13 February 1790  
(Acting).

Holland, E. J. . . . . 13 February 1790—20 February 1790  
(Acting).

Medows, Maj. Gen. William . 20 February 1790—17 May 1790; 21  
April 1792—1 August 1792. (On field  
service during the intervening period)

Turing, \*John . . . . 17 May 1790—14 June 1790.

Williams,\* Morgan . . . . 14 June 1790—15 October 1790.

Oakeley, Sir Charles . . . . 15 October 1790—21 April 1792\*; Governor  
1 August 1792—7 September 1794.

## GOVERNORS OF THE PRESIDENCY OF BOMBAY 1789-92

Medows, Maj. Gen. William . 16 September 1788—21 January 1790.  
(*Also Commander-in-Chief*)

Abercromby, \*\*Maj. Gen. Sir 21 January 1790—28 October 1793.  
Robert.

(*Also Commander-in-Chief*)

\*President during the absence of General Medows on field service.

\*\*George Dick presided during the absence of Sir Abercromby on field service.

## INTRODUCTION

## INTRODUCTION

THE papers in this volume comprise the letters from the Governor-General and Council at Fort William in Bengal to the Court of Directors of the East India Company, and *vice versa*, in the Public Department, during the years 1789-92. Hitherto, the custom had been to arrange the correspondence between the Court of Directors and the Governor-General and Council in four Departments, viz., Public, Revenue, Military and Commercial, and, besides, there was the Secret Department for confidential communications. But by a letter dated 8 April 1789, the Court of Directors ordered that henceforward all correspondence with, or relative to, other powers, whether Indian or European, was to be carried on in a separate department to be called the Political Department'. The Governor-General and Council informed the Court in their letter, dated 5 November 1789, that the arrangement of the proceedings in five separate divisions, independent of the address to the Secret Committee, would be started from the beginning of the next year'. This arrangement did actually take a definite shape in January 1790.

Thus it is that the letters of the year 1789 are somewhat wider in import than those of the subsequent years. For instance, in a letter to the Court, we have references to the question of the relations with the Nizam and the dispute regarding the Guntur Sarkar, and we are also told about the recall of Forster from Nagpur and of the relations of the Company with Raghuji Bhonsla'. Again, in another letter to the Court, we come across a proposal of the Dutch Director of Chinsura for exchanging certain Dutch possessions at Baranagar for lands in the vicinity of Hooghly. In the same letter we have references to the ship *Antonetta*, which sailed under Dutch colours with doubtful authority, and the request for a loan of 8 lakhs of rupees by the Dutch Director of Chinsura, which was refused. Then again, in the same letter, we are told of a direction to all Residents at Indian Courts to transmit to the Governor-General and Council, every month, copies of their correspondence with military officers and others'. In a letter from the Court, we are introduced to the very complicated question of the debts of the Nawab of Arcot'. For like matters, however, the Political Department was created and, consequently, in the later letters these are conspicuous by their absence.

<sup>1</sup>Public Letter from Court, 8 April 1789, para. 91.

<sup>2</sup>Public Letter to Court, 5 November 1789, para. 27.

<sup>3</sup>Public Letter to Court, 9 January 1789, paras 3-4.

<sup>4</sup>Public Letter to Court, 10 March 1789, paras 51, 53, 58, 80.

<sup>5</sup>Public Letter from Court, 8 April 1789, para. 86.

The letters, contained in this volume, are on miscellaneous topics, having little or no connection with one another and it is not, therefore, possible to give an idea of their contents in continuous narrative. There are several interesting letters relating to the growth of the Company's interests outside India, particularly in the region of South-East Asia and China, but these are, more or less, detached and cannot be made to yield a connected tale. Then, there are letters which refer to internal developments of various kinds; the Dak service; the Botanical Garden and various enterprises connected with it; the advent of private British capital and the increasing part that it began to play in the economic affairs of the Company, for instance, in certain matters connected with the war against Tipu; various enterprises on the part of the Company for the increase of knowledge—historical, geographical, scientific and the like; the financial relations between the Government of Bengal and those of Bombay and Madras; in fact, all sorts of miscellaneous matters having practically no connection with one another. Consequently, we have no alternative but to arrange the matters topically and try to give the readers a lead in that way.

### *The Andamans*

The letters that refer to the Andamans give us a very incomplete picture of the development of that settlement during the period covered by the present volume. The reason is that much of the material concerned is incorporated in the communications of the Political Department, and secondly, the letters from Captain Blair, who was in charge of the enterprise, are referred to as enclosures but are not included in this series. The project of establishing a settlement in the islands was already under way when this series was started. In a letter to the Court, dated 13 February 1790, we are told of a Report from Blair, wherein he claims that he has been highly successful in his efforts so far. But the Governor-General and Council thought that the letters of Blair did not offer any sure ground for coming to a definite view as to the ultimate advantage to be derived from the settlement. The progress was necessarily slow until the inhabitants could be reconciled to the new settlers. The chances of establishing a settlement were still remote, as a few inoffensive fishermen sent there from Bengal were only recently destroyed by the aborigines\*. But in spite of such occasional set-backs, Blair's activities continued and he prepared a chart of the island of Great Andaman and a plan for the proposed Port Cornwallis. Next, we hear of a harbour to the north-east of the island, which had many advantages which Port Cornwallis did not possess, and ultimately this harbour came to

\*Public Letter to Court, 30 July 1790, para. 32.

be preferred. The settlement began to grow, though there were difficulties for the men who were sent there. They expressed great reluctance to continue in the island without their families, and, consequently, the reliefs that were sent were encouraged to take their families with them. The men sent there kept good health and the natives also proved inoffensive, as they generally kept aloof from the new settlers except when they came for articles of food or a few pieces of iron. Blair soon engaged himself in exploring the coasts of the Andamans, as well as the shoals and banks which rendered access to those islands difficult. He also employed labourers for clearing and cultivating a piece of land for the purpose of garden and plantation. Finally, the settlement at Port Cornwallis was removed to the aforesaid harbour in the north-east of the island and the new settlement was named later on after the founder. Near about the same time Lieutenant-Colonel Kyd, the able and energetic Superintendent of the Botanical Garden, submitted a report on the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Kyd brought two specimens of nutmeg and sent certain trees and plants, which were likely to be of future use to the settlers and the natives of the islands.

### *The Botanical Garden*

The Botanical Garden was already an established institution and was making rapid progress under the able guidance of Lieutenant-Colonel Kyd. He was a man of wide interests and of indefatigable zeal and, as the Governor-General and Council wrote to the Court, "the pursuits of the Superintendent of your Botanical Garden have not for their object the mere gratification of an individual but have a very commendable tendency to the promotion of science, as well as of the national interest". The Botanical Garden was a progressive institution and was the mainspring of exploration and experiment in a number of ways.

The main work, of course, was to enrich the flora of Bengal by imports from Europe as well as South-East Asia and China, as also to send out the saplings which were likely to endure in the climate of England. The first notice about the Botanical Garden is found in a letter to the Court, wherein is acknowledged the receipt of certain articles. A request from Kyd is also forwarded for a vinedresser from Maderia and for some slips of the different vines cultivated in the Cape of Good Hope area, with some suggestions as to the mode of sending vegetable articles in the future.<sup>1</sup> Kyd also tried to procure for the Garden some plants from China through Major Yvon (Y'von), a French resident at Canton, and the Board requested the supercargoes there to make advances up to 1,500 dollars to him

<sup>1</sup>Public Letter to Court, 10 August 1789, para. 106.

for that purpose. The Court of Directors also sanctioned the arrangement. The supercargoes, however, disregarded the request, although they had earlier promised to do everything in their power. The Court of Directors were then requested by the Board to instruct them to pay particular attention to all such applications made either by them or Kyd, and the instructions were accordingly issued'. Plants continued to arrive from Europe and a report from Kyd as to their condition is referred to'.

The Botanical Garden was further expanded by the acquisition of an adjoining plot of land belonging to Kyd, whose zeal for botanical researches and improvements was supreme. And he promoted not only the import of new species into India, but as already noted, he was equally anxious to send out plants which were likely to endure in the climate of England. A ship expressly sent to the Pacific Sea for plants of the breadfruit tree was lost, and this led Kyd to prepare a plant of it from the stock in the Company's possession. This was sent to St. Helena, whence it was to be sent to England, so as to secure its arrival there in the summer season.<sup>12</sup> Specimens of rice of the finest quality from the Rohilla country and cotton seeds of the most esteemed species were sent to England, as also teak seed from the Rajahmundry frontier. Also, by the same ship were sent to England, specimens of live plants of leckee (leek?) and mahua intended for H.M.'s Botanical Garden at St. Vincent and for their propagation in the West Indies should the soil and climate prove favourable for the purpose". Besides plants, he also got interested in animal products, and two chests containing furs of different Indian animals were sent to England". The Directors having expressed a great desire for shawl goats, he devised a method of sending some to England and he also sent specimens of shawl wool.<sup>13</sup>

The objects in pursuance of which the Botanical Garden was started, viz., to bring from other countries such fruits and vegetables as the climate of Bengal helped to grow, though nature had denied them to its inhabitants; to draw from the jungles and deserts, hitherto unexplored, articles of commerce which Europe, China and even Bengal itself presently received from other countries; and to introduce and promote cultivation of articles useful to the manufactures of Great Britain and, consequently, important to the investments of India—these were, in the opinion of Sir Joseph Banks, being

splendidly fulfilled and Kyd deserved the highest praise and encomium. Banks, however, thought that the size of the garden was growing rather unwieldy and he was further of opinion that, instead of bringing year after year specimens of plants from Europe and other places, it should be the endeavour of the Superintendent to grow these in his own Garden in sufficient numbers to ensure their distribution wherever needed<sup>11</sup>.

It is interesting to note that even after retirement Warren Hastings continued to take an active interest in the affairs of the Garden. Kyd reports about two donations that he had received from Hastings<sup>12</sup> and, in return, Kyd was authorised to furnish him with some species of the Garden's vegetable acquisitions from the East, which were likely to grow up in the climate of England. Hastings wrote to Kyd about a medicinal plant, called 'Woogginoo's', from Abyssinia, of which he sent out a specimen<sup>13</sup>. Further details are not available in these letters except that Hastings was duly thanked for what he had been doing.

Kyd recommended the cultivation of the 'Cossada' root<sup>14</sup>, of which two species were available in the country, which might serve as an alternative food. As, in recent years, there had been a rather recurrent scarcity of food grains, the Governor-General and Council were very eager that Kyd should be provided with every assistance in this venture. A circular letter was forwarded to the Collectors, requiring them to report their opinions on the subject of cultivation of this plant in small plantations allotted for this purpose, in the first instance at the Company's expense, till it was generally propagated by the natives throughout the provinces. The report of the Collectors proving favourable, an establishment at the expense of Rs. 50 a month was sanctioned in each Collectorate, for the cultivation of the root.

It appears further that some tentative attempts were made by Kyd for the introduction of coffee into Bengal. His idea was to bring the best specimens of coffee, which could be obtained only from Arabia. For the express purpose of bringing the plant from Mocha, he proposed that a small vessel, fully adapted for the purpose, should be engaged, and it was to be furnished without any other expense to the Company than the temporary charge of sailing by an individual of the settlement. As the cost to the Company was likely to be about 5 or 6 hundred rupees per month, and, as the duration of the voyage

<sup>11</sup>Enclosure to Public Letter from Court, 8 April 1789.

<sup>12</sup>Public Letter to Court, 10 August 1789, para. 167.

<sup>13</sup>Public Letter to Court, 25 November 1791, para. 140.

<sup>14</sup>Public Letter to Court, 25 November 1791, para. 138.

would not exceed six months, the proposal was agreed to". It appears from a letter of Sir Joseph Banks that Kyd also attempted to establish the culture of tea in Bengal but he failed mainly because of the climate there and the impossibility of procuring from China persons skilled in the culture and manufacture of tea". As these difficulties seemed irremediable, Banks suggested the Rohilkhand country towards its northern boundary, which seemed to offer a climate, soil and exposure suitable for the cultivation of tea. An alternative suggestion was to offer alluring terms to the Lama of Tibet to induce him to procure plants from China and raise a colony of skilled Chinese workers in Tibet". If the Company could get for itself a monopoly of the produce, such a course was considered quite desirable and as the possessions of the Company did not afford a proper climate, recourse must be had to those of its neighbours. But it does not appear that anything tangible came out of these proposals.

Kyd also interested himself in the question of indigo. The Governor-General and Council considered a plan, early in 1789, to introduce indigo into the Company's investment for that year and referred the matter to the Board of Trade for preparing and laying before them such conditions and limitations as might appear to them to be necessary". An advertisement was accordingly issued and the different proposals that were made for the delivery of indigo were referred to the Board of Trade ". All this had nothing to do with Kyd but his interest in the matter appears from his connection with Dr. Scott of Bombay, who produced indigo of excellent quality, and for which he was recommended to the Bombay Government for encouragement and support".

Next, we come to exploration and research. At Kyd's instance, Marsh was appointed to make researches into the mineral, vegetable and animal products of the district of Sylhet. His salary was fixed at Rs. 250 per month and his continuance in this post was made subject to reports, that he was asked to submit to Kyd periodically, being found satisfactory". Later on, Marsh also worked in the districts of Chittagong and Tripura, but there is no indication in these letters as to the result of his enterprise, except that his report to Kyd was to be submitted to Sir Joseph Banks. Kyd himself undertook a journey to Srinagar, and a short extract from his account was forwarded to the Court of Directors, together with three drawings that

"Public Letter to Court, 25 January 1792, paras 70-71.

"Enclosure to Public Letter from Court, 8 April 1789.

"Public Letter from Court, 8 April 1789, para. 14; Public Letter to Court, 5 November 1789, para. 13.

"Public Letter to Court, 9 January 1789, para. 14.

"Public Letter to Court, 10 March 1789, para. 100.

"Public Letter to Court, 25 November 1790, para. 142.

"Public Letter to Court, 9 January 1789, para. 22.



he had made. Together with Blair, he also seems to have undertaken an exploratory tour in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, and his report on the soil and cultivation of the various parts of Bengal shows that he must have travelled extensively in Bengal.

### *Advancement of Knowledge*

This spirit of exploration and research is evident in several other directions as well. It is noticeable particularly in two directions. The Company had become rulers of vast Indian territories and it had become a necessity to acquire a more intimate knowledge of history, law, customs and traditions of the people who had come under their charge. It had also become essential to have a thorough knowledge of the geography of India and of her coasts. Thus we find that several literary efforts got full sympathy of the Court of Directors. The Court ordered that suitable encouragement should be given to Francis Gladwin in his scheme to publish a 'History of Indostan' and a subscription was raised by the Company for one hundred copies of his work. An allowance of Rs. 250 per month for one year was granted to Lieutenant Hamilton on account of the literary work in which he was engaged". The work was the translation of a commentary on Muhammedan Law, which Hamilton subsequently completed in collaboration with Lieutenant James Anderson. The work was printed at the Company's expense and, after publication, sixty sets were sent to the Governor-General in Council and two boxfuls to Bombay and Madras. The Company also undertook the task of publishing Forster's book on his journey from Bengal to England by the land route. One hundred copies, at two gold mohurs each, of Gladwin's translation of the *Alfaz-ul Adviyah*, a medical work likely to be of use to European surgeons, were subscribed by the Company. Substantial aid was given to Gilchrist for the publication of his Dictionary, and the Court sent its hearty approval of the "Compilation of the Digest of Hindu and Mahomedan Laws with a translation" by Sir William Jones". The Asiatic Society also got encouragement and 50 copies of its translations were purchased by the Company.

But of more practical and immediate value were the attempts that were made to increase the bounds of geographical and nautical knowledge. The Court ordered a survey of the Coromandel and the Bay of Bengal coasts and the work was entrusted to Mr. Reuben Burrow and Mr. Topping." Fort St. George. This was done and the Court's further direction of measuring degrees of latitude and longitude were also attended to. But the work regarding longitude measurements

"Public Letter to Court, 10 March 1789, paras 70-71.

"Public Letter from Court, 28 April 1790, para. 67.

"Public Letter to Court, 10 March 1789, para. 77.

remained incomplete, as the instruments of superior construction, which Burrow had been expecting from England, had not yet arrived. Pending their arrival, Burrow's proposal to traverse different districts on either side of the Ganges for the purpose of determining, by accurate observations to be made on the spot, the situation of the principal places so that some important geographical errors in the existing chart might be corrected, was accepted and circular letters were issued to the Collectors concerned to give his every assistance.<sup>28</sup> The results of his labour were incorporated in a volume of geographical and astronomical observations and this volume was, in due course, sent to the Court of Directors.

It is interesting to note that even the war, that was then going on with Tipu, was utilised for the purpose of promoting geographical knowledge. At the suggestion of Lieutenant-Colonel Wood, the Chief Engineer, the Governor-General and Council forwarded extracts from the General Map, containing such portions of the country as were most unknown, and for filling up of which opportunities from actual observation would occur to different officers, employed on active service with the various detachments of the armies, whose combined operations covered a very large extent of the country. These gentlemen were requested to return the extracts with their deficiencies supplied, and it was hoped that by this means extensive geographical knowledge regarding the Maratha and the Mysore countries would become available.<sup>29</sup> Unfortunately, these letters give us no information as to the amount of success that this ingenious plan achieved, though it seems that some of the items in the list of charts sent to the Court of Directors, e.g., "Sketch of the country between the passes of Cadapanatham and Policat towards Bangalore with the Marches of the English Army" or "Map of the Province of Dindigul, Arvacomchy Caroor, Daraporam with the Route of the Southern Army through them in 1790" might very well have been the outcome of the abovementioned plan. This list includes a chart of the Bay of Bengal constructed from actual surveys, a chart of Pegu and a chart of the Malay Peninsula, and shows the extent of the enterprise of the Company's geographers and surveyors.

This progressive outlook and this spirit of enterprise are in striking contrast to the general apathy of the then Indian rulers. But the Poona Minister, Nana Phadnavis, appears to have been an exception. He was anxious that the young Peshwa should be trained in the European geographical system and, at his request an orrery, a pair of globes, a set of instruments and several coloured maps of the best quality were presented to the Peshwa by the Company.<sup>30</sup>

<sup>28</sup>Public Letter to Court, 25 November 1791, paras 134-37.

<sup>29</sup>Public Letter to Court, 10 August 1791, paras 167-70.

<sup>30</sup>Public Letter to Court, 5 November 1789, paras 48-49.

*Dak Service*

During the period under review, regular Dak service was gradually established between Bengal, on the one hand, and Madras and Bombay on the other. The former was easier to arrange, as it could be done by direct communications between the two Governments concerned. But the service to Western India depended on permission from the Poona and Hyderabad Governments. The first reference to this matter appears in a letter to the Court, wherein we are told that the permission of the Poona Government having already been obtained, approaches were made to the Nizam. Captain Kennaway laid the proposal before the Nizam, who allowed the necessary people to be stationed in his country, subject to the former's control.<sup>1</sup> In another letter, the Governor-General and Council informed the Court of Directors that all obstacles had been removed and that regular service, once a week, was being carried on. Private letters were also carried, postage free for the time being, pending final arrangement to be made by Kennaway and Malet. This, it was hoped, would lead to an increase in the number of despatches every week.<sup>2</sup> The service was soon regularised, mainly through the efforts of Malet, who received high praise for this from the Governor-General and Council and the rates of postage for private letters were also fixed.<sup>3</sup>

Certain changes were next made in the Dak stages between Bengal and Balasore in order to accelerate conveyance of letters to the south. A new Dak service was established between Masulipatam and West India under the immediate control of the Company's officers, the Nizam having permitted the Resident's employees to be stationed between Hyderabad and Tuljapore. We are told: "Letters are received from Bombay and Poona twice in the course of every week. They generally arrive in 21 Days from Poona, and 23 from Bombay in the Dry Weather, and in 23 Days from Poona and 25 from Bombay in the Rainy Season".<sup>4</sup> But there were troubles ahead and the Post-Master-General soon complained about the insecurity of the new route. It was infested with tigers and, consequently, there was often great delay in the Western mails. To meet this danger, a temporary establishment of three *barqandazes* and twentyfive *baghmars*, or persons whose business it was to destroy tigers, was sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 87 per month. Again, the mail between Calcutta and Fort St. George also suffered delays and interruptions, particularly in Orissa. On one occasion, the Dak was detained in the Maratha districts for 24 hours. The Post-Master-General also made a representation to the effect that the *Halkaraks* and Guides, who were conveying the packets if a particular main, were 'robbed and murdered between

<sup>1</sup>"Public Letter to Court, 10 August 1789, paras. 24-26.

<sup>2</sup>"Public Letter to Court, 5 November 1789, para. 46.

<sup>3</sup>"Public Letter to Court, 13 February 1790, paras. 6-7.

<sup>4</sup>"Public Letter to Court, 31 July 1790, paras. 47-48.

Jaggernaut and Narsingapatam, places situated within that portion of Orissa which belonged to the Raja of Berar', and a letter was written by the Governor-General to Raja's agent residing at Cuttack. But what came of it is not known."

### *Free Merchants and Free Mariners*

Many persons, who were not on the civil or military establishment of the Company's service, came to India for purposes of trade under licences granted by the Court of Directors. These were of two classes, viz., the Free Merchants and the Free Mariners, the difference being that while the former were entitled to exercise their discretion in trading from one part of India to another, or residing at any fixed place for engaging in commerce, the latter were limited to the maritime trade and were not entitled to settle in one part of India in preference to another. But during the period under review, this distinction was well-nigh lost and, as the Governor-General in Council wrote, it was impossible to renew it without exercising a very great degree of severity."

Of the free merchants, the most successful and the most enterprising were those who ran Agency Houses. But these were very few in number and a comparatively larger section was engaged in the less lucrative trade of supplying orders and acting as agents with regard to various articles, like rice, opium, indigo, timber and similar other things produced in the country. But there were a large number of so-called free merchants, who had not the means, and some not the inclination, to carry on trade. They generally resided in different parts of India among Europeans and soon became a burden on them. To these were added deserters of various descriptions—from the Company's and foreign ships as well as from the Company's service—and soon a rather difficult problem of European vagrants had to be tackled. Some of these turned into dacoits and perpetrated robberies in the European quarters of Calcutta. Some were thrown into prison for debts, while the lowest class, destitute of friends or connections in the country, were found in the streets of Calcutta labouring under various diseases which, in many cases, proved fatal because of the want of medical aid and the bad climate. The remedy suggested for this vagrants problem was to send all unauthorised persons back to Europe, and the committee for the relief of insolvent debtors also came to the conclusion that this would be the best method, because they saw that the relief given to debtors was in most cases wasted, and most of these persons were again sent to Government, as the hope of relief tempted them to incur fresh debts. Further, the Governor-General and Council sent an earnest request to

"Public Letter to Court, 3 September 1792, para. 170.

"*Ibid.*, para. 39.

the Court to restrict in future the granting of trading licences to 10 persons at the utmost. In the year that this request was made, trading licences had been given to 104 persons, so the Governor-General and Council were asking for a very drastic reduction.<sup>37</sup>

A few of these Europeans sometimes committed very reprehensible acts. One such instance was that of Captain Horrebow, the Commander of a ship engaged in country trade. Horrebow procured and carried away several Bengalis whom he sold as slaves in the island of Ceylon. He was criminally prosecuted in the Supreme Court, found guilty, and was sentenced to imprisonment for three months and a fine of Rs. 500, besides being compelled to furnish security for his good behaviour for three years. A similar case was that of Reverend Carr of St. Helena, who also sold a person as a slave. The Governor-General and Council ordered the slave to be liberated, but there is no evidence that any punishment was inflicted on Reverend Carr. It seems that the evil was more widespread than these stray cases would suggest. Even before Horrebow's case occurred, the Governor-General in Council had issued a proclamation in the English and country languages, expressing their abhorrence against this inhuman crime, and further regulations against slave trade in the interior parts of Bengal and Bihar were also devised with the approbation of the Judges of the Supreme Court.<sup>38</sup>

But there were quite a number of *bona fide* free merchants who acted as traders, agents and order suppliers. A few of them also sometimes indulged in inter-presidency remittances, and even in remittances to China. But these will be dealt with elsewhere, and here we shall confine ourselves to their activities, principally as agents and suppliers. An unusually large part of these letters is concerned with contracts for supplying rice, mainly to Bombay and Madras, and matters connected with them. It appears that, owing to recurrent failure of crops, there was a great scarcity of foodgrains in Madras, as well as in Bombay, and the situation was further aggravated by the outbreak of hostilities with Tipu. The supply of rice to the deficit areas thus became a major problem. The contracts for rice supply were for varying quantities, sometimes as high as 125,000 bags and sometimes for only 5,000 bags, and the transport was, in all cases, by the sea. The most notable fact about these contracts is that, barring one or two cases, these remained unfulfilled, or only partially fulfilled, the securities were called upon to make good, and sometimes prolonged litigation had to be resorted to. The shortage of tonnage, which was further aggravated by the outbreak of hostilities with Tipu, was, no doubt, partially responsible for some of these failures, but a more important factor was the dishonesty and greed of some of the contractors and their agents.

<sup>37</sup>Public Letters to Court, 25 November 1791, para. 128; 3 September 1792, paras 37-40.

<sup>38</sup>Public Letter to Court, 10 August 1789. 100.

The first case that we come across is that of Tyler, who had failed to fulfil his obligations regarding a contract for the supply of rice, and his account was finally adjusted by a committee appointed for the purpose. He again entered into a contract for the supply of 10,000 bags of rice to Tellicherry and 30,000 bags to Madras, and, once again, failed to fulfil his engagements and an extension of time was granted. But still Tyler failed, and a suit was instituted against his "securities" at the Mayor's Court at Madras. Tyler put forward a claim for compensation and this was referred to arbitration."

Another big contract for supply of rice to Madras was with Mair and Beanland. It was for 100 000 bags, to be provided half and half by the two. They failed to fulfil their contracts, both with regard to the quality and the quantity of the rice supplied. But since it was found that the quantity delivered was fully equivalent to the amount of advances actually made to them though it was short of total quantity earlier agreed to be supplied—it was decided that no penalty could be legally demanded from them and the parties were, accordingly, exonerated from all further demands." But a more serious matter than these failures was the misappropriation of the Company's consignments and their diversion to other purposes because of the possibilities of much higher profits owing to the increased demand for rice on the Malabar Coast. Several stringent measures had to be adopted to stop these fraudulent practices."

Mair had also entered into a contract for supplying 125,000 bags of rice at Bombay and once again failed to fulfil his engagement. A very interesting fact about this case is that Mair's private agent, Alexander Adamson, misappropriated to his private use the cargoes of several ships consigned to him. He was called upon to make good the full amount of these consignments on account of Mair's contract. Adamson evaded compliance under one plea or another till at last a suit had to be instituted against him in the Mayor's Court. The suit was dismissed in the first instance but decreed on appeal. For Mair's lapses, his securities were called upon and, with some concessions, an arrangement was made with them. The Bombay Government was directed to help these gentlemen in recovering their rights from Adamson. Two cargoes of rice were offered by Adamson but these were rejected by the Bombay Government, which put an additional burden on Mair's securities. Some further concessions had to be made on this account. Mair's Bombay contract was in two parts, one for 75,000 bags and the other for 50,000 bags. One

"Public Letters to Court, 10 August 1789, paras 83-86; 3 November 1789, para. 37; 6 January 1790, para. 3; 31 January 1791, para. 7; 25 November 1791, paras 66-67.

"Public Letters to Court, 13 February 1790, para. 5; 31 January 1791, paras 10-11; 10 August 1791, para. 101.

"Public Letter to Court, 10 August 1791, paras 82-84.

of the securities for this lesser contract proved rather troublesome, and, therefore, another had to be put in his place and a mode of arbitration was arrived."

Difficulties of one sort or another arose in the case of almost every contract, the only exception being that of Gilmore and, with slight lapses, those of Richardson and Fairlie. However, towards the close of the period under review, an apprehended scarcity of food grains in Bengal and the adjoining territories led to the imposition of an embargo on rice and a new situation arose. In order to make the prohibition effective, the Collectors of Dacca and Chittagong and the Salt Agent at Hijili were directed to prevent the exportation of grain by the sea from those districts, and the French Agent and the Director and Council at Chinsura were requested to co-operate in the execution of this necessary measure by prohibiting the pilots under their respective orders from taking charge of any vessel that may be laden with grain. The Director at Chinsura, Mr. Titsingh, yielded immediate compliance, but the French Agent, Mr. Fumeran, could not do anything in spite of his best wishes, as there was, more or less, a state of anarchy at Chandernagore and he possessed no actual authority over the pilots in the French service."

The possibilities of importing rice from Java and the neighbouring places were also explored and the Director at Chinsura assured the Governor-General and Council of the good will and friendly disposition of the Dutch Government of Batavia". It was also hoped that the private merchants, who had been greatly disappointed by the embargo on the export of rice, might be induced, by the prospect of handsome profits, to speculate on the import of rice, but though two or three proposals were brought before the Governor-General and Council and received due encouragement, it does not appear that anything fruitful came about."

It was but natural that attempts would be made to circumvent the embargo, and a very interesting case was the request for 12,000 bags of rice by His Highness the Nawab of Arcot. The Nawab wrote to say that, as there was a great scarcity of rice at Madras and, as a consequence, his dependents would suffer much inconvenience, he would be very much obliged if a large supply of rice was sent to him through the persons who carried his letters. These were the commanders of two country ships, who were, each, to take to

<sup>1</sup>*Ibid.*, paras 87-91, Public Letter to Court, 25 November 1791, paras 73-80.

<sup>2</sup>Public Letter to Court, 25 November 1791, paras 97-101.

<sup>3</sup>*Ibid.*, para. 102.

<sup>4</sup>*Ibid.*, para. 103.

him 6,000 bags. It was clear that the application arose more from a desire to serve these captains, who might be detained for want of freight during the period of the embargo, than any real distress, and the request was not acceded to. But, as a compliment to the Nawab, 1,000 bags of very fine rice were sent to him. It also appears that clandestine trade in rice was carried on by circuitous passages with the ultimate purpose of exportation by sea, and the Custom Master was directed to refuse permission to transport grain by the river to any part of the country without authority from Government. A few months later, the rice embargo was removed and all these difficulties ended."

These rice deals occupy a rather important place in these letters, and they show how the British Free Merchants were almost completely ousting the native merchants from the coastal trade. But the activities of these merchants covered a much wider field. They traded in timber, opium, sugar, diamonds, and sundry other things. For illustration we will take a few cases at random. J. Hamilton, formerly an officer in His Majesty's Navy, had long settled at Coringa as a merchant for procuring teak timber from the Rajahmundry forests and supplying the same to Bengal. The Governor-General and Council recommended him to the Government of Fort St. George, as his venture was one of considerable public utility." Hiram Cox entered into an agreement for carrying on a sugar plantation for five years at Banterem." In another letter, reference is made to one Prager, who traded in diamonds and other precious stones and who, under the terms of his indentures, was to place before the Governor-General and Council every year an affidavit respecting the account of the business he was engaged in." We have mention of several persons who acted as agents in opium. One such was Captain Lloyd, who complained of the bad quality of the Patna opium purchased by him at the sales the previous year. His claim for compensation was disallowed on the ground that the opium had been submitted in samples to the purchasers at the time of the sale, and no objection as to its quality had then been made by him or any of the other purchasers."

But more interesting, and more important, were the cases connected with remittances to Canton. We come across several persons in this connection, Johannes, Fairlie and Cotton among others. It appears that a popular method of making these remittances was

"Public Letters to Court, 27 April 1792, para. 31; 14 December 1792, para. 32.

"Public Letter to Court, 6 November 1790, para. 68.

"Public Letter to Court, 31 January 1791, paras 23-24.

"Public Letter to Court, 27 April 1792, para. 115.

"Public Letter to Court, 6 November 1790, paras 62-63.



through opium. On furnishing proper securities and a security deposit, and on executing a bond for the payment of a specified sum by a specified date to the treasury at Canton, private merchants were allowed to take opium to places in South-East Asia and China, out of the sale proceeds of which the bond was to be redeemed. In one instance, we find Fairlie exporting cotton from Bombay in order to fulfil his engagement for paying a specified sum at Canton." Sometimes difficulties arose owing to the unfavourable conditions of the market, and the Company had either to grant extension of time or call upon the Securities to make good. That of Canning is a case in point." But more serious were the cases where deliberate fraud was practised on the Company. A very interesting, and rather complicated, case is that of Cotton, who entered into an engagement for a China remittance of four lakhs of rupees in the name of Captain Stephenson. It transpired that Captain Stephenson knew nothing about this and a warrant was obtained for the arrest of Cotton on a charge of obtaining money under false pretences. He fled to the Danish settlement of Serampore, whence he was brought back after some difficulty and confined in a gaol. For the purpose of effecting the remittance, he had made provisions for a quantity of opium and chintz, but most of these were mortgaged to different persons for securing immediate relief from the complicated embarrassments in which he had involved himself. By putting pressure on Collic, one of the securities for this remittance, and through certain legal steps taken in the Supreme Court, 259 chests of opium were recovered and these were sent to the East for disposal."

### *Inter-Presidency Remittances*

The Presidencies of Bombay and Madras were almost always in acute financial difficulties, and they could hardly subsist without remittances from outside. Their financial resources were meagre, they had no territorial revenues to rely on, and they spent prodigally. While the Bombay and Madras servants of the Company shook the pagoda tree and earned the fortunes of Nawabs, the Governments they served could hardly meet their peacetime obligations even after straining their credit to the utmost. They drew regularly upon England and Bengal for necessary funds. Their financial dependence increased as wars became frequent in the last thirty years of the 18th century. Not only were the Anglo-Mysore and Anglo-Maratha wars financed from Bengal, but provision had to be made for enhanced military budgets in both the Presidencies in the few years of uncertain peace intervening between the wars.

"Public Letter to Court, 14 December 1792, para. 27.

"Public Letter to Court, 3 September 1792, paras 51-55.

"Public Letters to Court, 10 August 1791, paras 41-58; 25 November 1791, para. 59.

Remittances could be sent to Bombay and Madras in several ways: (1) Shipment of bullion was the most direct but costly method. Owing to a continuous drain, specie had become notoriously scarce in Bengal as early as the 70's of the eighteenth century. We find that the Principles of the different Houses of Agency made a representation to the Government for relieving the Settlement at large, and the commercial part of it in particular, from the inconvenience that was being caused by the scarcity of circulating specie". (2) The Presidencies were allowed to draw bills on Bengal for cash accepted in their respective treasuries. They might enter into engagements with Native shroffs or British Agency Houses, who would pay regular monthly sums at the treasury and receive bills at a favourable rate of exchange on Benares or Calcutta, i.e. wherever they liked to transfer their money. (3) The same might be done with Bengal Merchants who desired to get back returns of trade or military contract from Bombay and Madras safely. They would pay the returns at the Bombay and Madras treasuries for bills on Benares or Calcutta. (4) There might be a fourth mode of remittance which also, at the same time, bolstered up the Company's credit. The creditors of Bombay or Madras Governments might surrender their Bombay or Madras bonds, and receive in return Bengal Bonds, which were later converted into Bills on the Court of Directors, and paid in England after a fixed period. This was sought by people who wanted to effect a remittance to England.

The first mode of remittance—shipment of bullion—was almost relinquished in the period under review." For cash, an arrangement was made with indigenous bankers. The House of Marohar Dass Dwarka Das, for example, agreed to pay 2½ lakhs per month for a year at the Bombay treasury for bills on Benares treasury at the rate of 93 Bombay rupees for 100 Benares rupees."

The Government often suffered a loss in this way, especially when they allowed one shroff to monopolise the lending business. We find Charles Malet, Resident at Poona, being called upon to create competition among shroffs wanting to effect transfer of their capital in this way and thereby reduce the exchange rate." In order to settle the most advantageous rate of exchange between Bombay and Bengal, the Bengal Government required a weekly report on exchange rates from Bombay.

Bombay, Madras and Bankulen bonds could also be exchanged for Bengal bonds and could be converted into bills on the Court. The rates at which this conversion took place were—400 current rupees

"Public Letter to Court, 12 April 1790, para. 23.

"Public Letter to Court, 10 August 1789, para. 33.

"*Ibid.*, para. 32.

"*Ibid.*, para. 31.

for 100 pagodas, 116 current rupees for 100 Bombay rupees and 250 current rupees for 100 Spanish dollars. One current rupee was worth two shillings, sterling. There is mention of a collusion between the Transfer Master, at Bombay and the Bombay bond-holders. Though the latter's bonds were partly discharged, the discharged bonds were suffered to remain uncanceled and were exchanged for Bengal bonds. The case of one Catherine Gage is an example of such fraud."

The merchants of Bengal, as we have seen, often exported grain to Bombay and Madras, either in course of ordinary trade or in fulfilment of war contracts, for supply of provisions to the Army. Returns of such trade had to be brought back to Bengal. The Bombay Government was asked to accept cash from them in return for bills on Bengal."

Sometimes the Bengal Government paid cash to Calcutta agency house like Colvins & Bazett, who drew bills on their Bombay branches at advantageous rates. The latter paid cash at the Bombay treasury, and a remittance was effected."

The Court of Directors, however, while approving of various engagements entered into by the Bengal Government for effecting remittances to Bombay, directed them to endeavour to devise some better mode for the next season. The Bengal Government asked the Bombay Government to stop accepting cash from shroffs but it had already concluded an engagement with a native banker for paying into the Company's treasury there a sum of, Rs. 2½ lakhs, per month for one year at the rate of, Rs. 96 for hundred Benares rupees."

Bombay's financial difficulties were partly solved on the victorious conclusion of the third Anglo-Mysore War. Lord Cornwallis apportioned 7 lakhs—a share of the indemnity paid by Tipu—to Bombay. He also used the indemnity to improve the credit of the Bengal Government by stopping the 12% loan and by discharging a part of it before time."

### *Stationery*

The subject of stationery finds a place in these letters out of all proportion to its importance. The reason seems to be that there were long-standing abuses and the Court was not always convinced that

"Public Letters to Court, 10 August 1789, para. 37; 5 November 1789, para. 41.

"Public Letter to Court, 12 March 1791, para. 15.

"Public Letter to Court, 10 August 1791, para. 72.

"Public Letter from Court, 8 February 1792, para. 10; Public Letter to Court, 3 September 1792, para. 92.

"Public Letter to Court, 3 September 1792, paras 91, 106.

everything was being done to eradicate them. The subject opens with an investigation by the Board of Trade on advice from the Court of Directors into the purchase of stationery under previous Boards in 1784, 1785 and 1786. The enquiry revealed unwarrantable abuses, particularly with regard to the quantity of the articles and the prices at which they were purchased. The Court decided not to take any action against the culprits at that distance of time but urged stringent steps to prevent the recurrence of such abuses in future.

Expenditure on stationery was unusually heavy, and the Court's suspicion that a considerable part of it was diverted to private use appears to have been well-founded. In accordance with the Court's orders that the expenditure on stationery should be strictly controlled, the following measures were adopted—the Accountant-General was asked to prepare a statement regarding stationery delivered to each of the officers in the several departments between 30 April 1788 and 1 May 1789, and this statement was forwarded to the Court to serve as the basis of future estimates. A Stationery Committee was set up to control the expenditure and Officers were required to furnish a statement with regard to their needs for one year. Local purchases were reduced to the minimum and practically all articles of stationery were to be imported from England. It was hoped that this would effect a clear saving of about £ 8,000."

These measures mended matters to some extent. But soon other difficulties arose. The decision to import practically all articles of stationery from England necessitated a revision of the existing contract with Mr. Campbell, the agent and contractor for stationery, and ultimately Campbell was put in charge and made the Issuer of the Stationery sent by the Court on a monthly salary of Rs. 250, which was later raised to Rs. 340, as a full compensation for the losses that he was likely to suffer because of the practical annulment of his contract. This was strongly disapproved by the Court and James Wintle was appointed in Campbell's place on a salary of Rs. 200."

But a more serious difficulty arose in regard to the quality of the articles of stationery sent by the Court. They were very often found in a seriously damaged condition making them totally unfit to be used in the Company's offices. The Governor-General and Council thought that this must have been due to improper packing or stowing," while the Court seemed to entertain a doubt that defective storage was responsible for the damage. To determine the source of

"Public Letter from Court, 28 April 1790, para. 30.

"Public Letter from Court, 8 February 1792, paras 29-32; Public Letter to Court, 3 September 1792, para. 23.

"Public Letter to Court, 25 January 1792, para. 77.

the damage, the imports of stationery were examined one season by a civil servant of the Company and an assistant in the presence of the pursers of the ships concerned." A new house was also ordered to be erected for the storage of stationery sent by the Court

All this, however, could hardly mend matters, as most of the stationery sent by the Court continued to arrive in a damaged condition, and the orders of the Court regarding this matter were not always consistent. For instance, the Court had directed that in case the stationery proved bad or of inferior quality, samples thereof should be sent to the Court so that they might take proper measures to meet the situation. The Court next ordered that the damaged articles should be returned to England so that they might return them to the person who supplied them, and recover from him the cost and interest with all charges. The Governor-General and Council sometimes ordered sale of articles of inferior quality by public auction. This was also prohibited by the Court, and they further ordered that all articles which were so damaged as to be totally unserviceable were to be either burnt or destroyed. The Court had received private intimation, to which they could not but give credence, of abuses practised on the Company by such sales, and they were insistent that the order should be strictly followed."

But these orders were sometimes deliberately disobeyed and sometimes could not be carried out because of difficulties. For instance, the Court's order to send home all damaged stationery imported by the ships of 1789-90 was not attended to. The Governor-General in Council said by way of explanation that an order was actually passed, but it could not be ascertained as to whom it had been given. The Court insisted that the guilty person should be found out and punished.<sup>69</sup> In another case, in compliance with the Court's order part of the stationery brought by the ship *Phoenix*, was condemned on survey, and returned by the *Northumberland* in 76 chests. But as the condemned stationery in such cases occupied a large part of the available tonnage and took the place of a part of the "investment", the order was not followed in the case of the damaged stationery brought by the *Dutton*, and fresh orders from the Court were awaited." Towards the close of the period under review, we find again that only samples of the condemned articles of stationery were sent to the

<sup>69</sup>Public Letter to Court, 6 November 1790, para. 18.

<sup>70</sup>Public Letter from Court, 11 March 1791, para. 27.

<sup>71</sup>Public Letters from Court, 11 March 1791, paras 24-26; 8 February 1792, paras. 25-26.

<sup>72</sup>Public Letter from Court, 8 February 1792, paras 23-24.

<sup>73</sup>Public Letter to Court, 27 April 1792, paras 108-09.

Court, the Governor-General and Council, taking care that the godown, in which the great part of the stationery was stored, was kept perfectly dry."

It thus appears that, in spite of the best efforts of the Court the position with regard to stationery could not be much improved because of the rather half-hearted co-operation of the local authorities. The abuses were so varied and so deep-rooted that it was not an easy matter to root them out.

### *Mint Matters*

These letters reveal certain developments with regard to the mints and coinage. But the story is neither full nor coherent, as the enclosures, bearing major part of the material, are not available to us. The first mention of this matter is to the effect that gold and silver coinage by a new mode was being carried on and that the new Mints at Dacca and Patna were progressing satisfactorily." The Mint at Calcutta was accommodated in a new house with godowns, which, in the opinion of the Mint Master, was well designed for conducting the business of his office in all its branches."

By two orders passed towards the end of 1790 and the beginning of 1791, individuals bringing bullion to the Mint were allowed to take away immediately the amount of its assay value from the Treasury. This involved an unbearable strain on the treasury and, at the request of the Accountant-General, the operation of the orders in question was suspended. It appears, however, that this method of converting bullion into cash was very popular and, in response to frequent applications to Government, the prohibition was withdrawn. But certain new conditions, which secured more thoroughly the interests of the Company, were imposed.<sup>1</sup> Arrangements were also made in the Dacca and Patna Mints for recoinage of the collections of the current year. It is interesting to note that the Company's gold mohurs were forged with some success, and the Advocate-General was asked to ascertain whether any statute was applicable to this country by which such offences could be punished."

The old difficulty, however, reappeared, possibly in a more accentuated form. The amount advanced by the Treasury against the Mint Master's certificates of bullion delivered into the Mint far exceeded the amount actually delivered. The abuses were so varied and so deep-rooted that it was not an easy

<sup>1</sup>"Public Letter to Court, 14 December 1791, paras 102-03.

<sup>2</sup>"Public Letter to Court, 6 November 1790, paras 87-88.

<sup>3</sup>"Public Letter to Court, 10 August 1791, para. 132.

<sup>4</sup>*Ibid.*, paras 136-37.

<sup>5</sup>*Ibid.*, paras 142-43.

and, on one occasion the difference amounted to more than twenty lakhs of current rupees in two months. The Government appointed a Committee to enquire into the matter, as also to look for the reasons for unsatisfactory circulation of *sikka* rupees and to suggest remedial measures. The Committee found that the main cause of the delay in turning bullion into coins in the Calcutta Mint was the deficiency of workmen, particularly of those who prepared planchets, and on the Committees' recommendation discretionary power was given to the Mint Master to increase or diminish the number of workmen employed in that branch as circumstances required. Some increase of establishment in other respects was also sanctioned and certain fundamental changes in the internal administration of the mints were also introduced. Provision was made for the training at Calcutta of Assay Masters for the subordinate mints. But the most important change introduced was that the offices of the Mint Master and the Assay Master were made independent of each other and both were placed under the superintendence and control of the Mint Committee. Salaries were fixed for both and the former method of making part payment by a commission on the coinage was abolished. Certain rules were also framed with regard to the transaction of business in the Mint and the Assay Offices. The Committee also proposed several regulations with a view to draw into the mints the old and light coins and thereby ensure the currency of the *Sikka* rupees. These regulations were to be promulgated as soon as the table of *batta* rates was prepared by the Committee."

There appears to have been some difficulty in effecting the separation of the Mint and the Assay Offices. At one stage of the transition, the delays in coinage, which had led to the change of system, were increased by the appearance of a divided authority. But the position was soon rectified and the daily return of work done at the respective offices showed that business was being conducted with much greater dispatch. A table of *batta* rates on the various species of rupees circulating in the country was finally prepared by the Mint Committee and published with translations in the country languages. A new mint was opened at Murshidabad. It will thus be seen that during the period under review, mint matters marked a definite improvement."

### *The Residency of Fort Marlboro'*

The first notice that we get of Fort Marlboro' (January 1789) discloses a rather difficult situation owing to the hostile activities of a local chief. Assistance was called for and a contingent of 300 sepoys

"Public Letter to Court, 3 September 1792, paras 116-36.

"Public Letter to Court, 14 December 1792, paras 64-75.

was sent to Fort Marlbro'. It is interesting to note that the Commander was ordered to accord the best possible treatment to the sepoys during the voyage, and also while at Sumatra, in the hope that it would help to remove their objections to engaging in overseas expeditions." Apparently this was considered to be a matter of great importance, for, on a later occasion, we find that the Captain of the ship, which carried 58 recruits to complete the contingent at Fort Marlbro', was strictly enjoined to see that the sepoys were well treated and the Deputy Governor at Fort Marlbro' was ordered to make enquiry and report."

The disturbances, referred to above, soon subsided but, at the request of the Deputy Governor, the troops were kept for some time in order to make a suitable impression on the natives. It appears that such disturbances were not infrequent; we hear of one at Saloomah, and the Deputy Governor asked for an increase in the strength of the Company's troops stationed there." This request was granted, but his proposal to raise a corps of artillery in Bengal for Fort Marlbro' was not acceded to, though he was told that there would be no objection to his raising such a corps from among the natives of Sumatra. There were also certain proposals for strengthening the defences of Fort Marlbro' but information with regard to certain details was called for before these could be sanctioned.

Remittances to Fort Marlbro' were often made in the shape of opium. One consignment was sent through the ship *Foulis*. The Governor-General and Council thought that as the article was in great demand on the West Coast and was likely to find a good market, the sale price of the opium sent would fully equal the requirements of the Residency. But unfortunately, the ship was lost and it appears that the sum of £10,000, usually sent from St. Helena, also did not arrive. To meet the consequent difficulty, two servants of the Company in the Fort Marlbro' establishment were allowed to deposit one lakh each at the treasury there in return for promissory notes issued at Calcutta."

The Company's servants were, at times, dishonest, and we come across two very interesting cases where the persons concerned were found guilty of crimes but had to be let off rather lightly because of the uncertainty of subjecting them to legal conviction. The first case is of one Freeth, who was charged with an attempt to issue forged

"Public Letter to Court, 10 March 1789, paras 86, 90.

"Public Letter to Court, 27 April 1792, para. 60.

"Public Letters to Court, 7 December 1789, para. 9; 6 January 1790, paras 10-11.

"Public Letters to Court, 25 November 1791, para. 85; 25 January 1792, paras 21-22.



notes through a slave boy. This was proved, on investigation, to the satisfaction of the Deputy Governor and Council. Freeth was dismissed and sent to Calcutta. The case was referred to the Advocate-General, who gave it as his opinion that a conviction would not be easy to secure and all that could be done was to send Freeth back to Europe." The other case was of Bagley, another servant of the Fort Marlbro' Residency. He was guilty of gross negligence of duty and of defalcation and was heavily indebted to the Company, as also to several private individuals. As at Fort Marlbro' the creditors had no legal means of relief; they applied to the Deputy Governor, who demanded of Bagley a full statement of his assets. He flatly refused to comply and the Deputy Governor could think of no legal means to compel him. The case was referred to the Advocate-General, who recommended a measure for securing his property for meeting the dues of the Company as also of other private individuals. This was finally adopted." Such cases were by no means rare and they reveal the defective nature of the law and procedure that then obtained.

The most important article that the Residency sent to Europe appears to have been pepper, both black and white. The crop was in a satisfactory condition and towards the end of our period we find that a full cargo had been sent to Europe and another was awaiting despatch. Near about the same time a new venture was started on behalf of the Company at the suggestion of one Manington, who had placed before the Governor-General and Council "the outlines of a plan to be formed for carrying on a trade in piecegoods from the Coromandel coast to Sumatra on account of the Hon'ble Company". It appears that Manington was an agent of the Court. His plan was accepted, a sum of money to the extent of 2,000 pagodas was advanced to him and he was put in charge of the whole affair on a salary of 150 pagodas per month."

But, financially, the Residency was in a sorry plight, and it was almost entirely dependent on remittances from outside.

### *Prince of Wales Island*

This settlement was still in its infancy and even in 1792 the Court of Directors were uncertain whether to continue it or not." The Court's uncertainty was mainly due to the hostility of the Malays, which continued practically throughout our period. The first

"Public Letter to Court, 31 January 1791, para<sup>c</sup> 26-30

"Public Letters to Court, 25 January 1792, paras 24-26, 27 April 1792, para 56

"Public Letters to Court, 27 April 1792, paras 61-63; 3 September 1792, paras 96-98.

"Public Letter from Court, 8 February 1792, para. 13.

information that we get about this settlement is that of the arrival of Captain Light with a number of Bengal farmers, who were duly settled and were to be maintained at the expense of the Company for one year." We hear next about the inevitable chests of opium, 250 of which were sent to Captain Light on behalf of the Company. Then, suddenly, there is an appeal from Captain Light for two Companies of Sepoys and 10 guns, as "large fleets of Malay prow" were threatening the settlement. Reinforcements were promptly sent and matters were put right for the time being."

But there was practically no respite, as the King of Kedah soon collected a considerable force and threatened the Settlement. This put a stop to the cultivation and the clearing of the lands and the inhabitants became apprehensive that the English would quit the island and leave them defenceless. The crisis was tided over, and as it appeared from Captain Light's letters, the main object of the King of Kedah was to obtain compensation for the losses which his trade had suffered owing to the newly established settlement at Penang. And as the justice of the claim could not be denied, Light was authorised to come to an agreement. The Governor-General and Council were agreeable to make an annual payment of 10,000 Spanish dollars and also to make the payment with effect from the date on which the island was first occupied. The King of Kedah, however, asked for a defensive alliance, but as this could not be concluded without the sanction of the Court, the agreement was delayed. In the mean time hostilities again broke out and, when, at last, an agreement was reached, the annual payment was reduced to 6,000 Spanish dollars and a stipulation was made to the effect that the King of Kedah would not erect any fortifications within striking distance of the Prince of Wales Island."

Though very young, this settlement appears to have been financially in a much better position than the older ones. There was, no doubt, the regular remittance in the shape of 250 chests of opium, but a considerable part of the expenses was met from the revenues that came from the arrack farm, the market, houses, shops and the warehouses. It is interesting to note in this connection that the Chinese inhabitants of the island paid 10,000 dollars per annum as licence fee to keep a gaming house and for the liberty of retailing opium, subject, of course, to such checks and regulations as Captain Light might determine."

"Public Letter to Court, 12 April 1790, para. 74.

"Public Letter to Court, 31 January 1791, paras 17-19.

"Public Letters to Court, 10 August 1791, paras 104-20; 25 November 1791, para. 89.

"Public Letter to Court, 10 August 1791, paras 122-23.

'The Governor-General and Council were full of praise for the work done by Mr. Popham, a Lieutenant in His Majesty's Navy. He seems to have further extended the work already done by Burrow by effecting a survey of the South Channel and thereby rendering a great service to the settlement of Prince of Wales Island. Even before this, Popham had assisted in the survey of the New Harbour and the adjacent Channel, and the Court was requested to bring these facts to the notice of the Lord Commissioners of the Admiralty in England."

We would close this review by referring to an incident which caused Captain Light some embarrassment. The King of Siam sent an embassy to him demanding two vessels, complete with their arms and crews, for assisting in conveying rice for the use of the Siamese army in his projected conquest of the kingdom of Ava. Captain Light refused to comply but, at the same time, sought to soften his refusal "by allowing private merchants to freight their vessels for the transport of rice, if the Agent of the King of Siam could prevail on them to do so, and by making a present of small quantity of iron and nails to the ambassador for the use of his master."

### *Canton*

All references that we get in these letters to Canton are almost wholly concerned with the question of remittances. It appears that the Residency at Canton was very largely dependent on remittances from outside and these came to them from various sources. On occasions, bullion was shipped direct from England. It is interesting to note that, in one instance, a part of the bullion so sent was appropriated by the Governor-General and Council to meet the expenses of the war that was then going on with Tipu. In order to obviate any difficulty that might, as a result, be experienced at Canton, the supercargoes there were authorised to draw bills on Bengal "at a short sight" for any sums they might be able to procure on terms more or less equal to those that obtained with regard to direct remittances from Bengal."

The Bombay and the Madras Governments also made remittances on behalf of the Company to China but there is not much in these letters as to their modes and channels. In any case, the statements of the two Governments show that these remittances did not amount to much, and they include the sums stipulated to be paid into the treasury at Canton for Bills on the Court of Directors. The brunt

"Public Letter to Court, 25 November 1791, paras 92-95.

"Public Letter to Court, 14 December 1792, paras 40-61.

"Public Letter to Court, 31 July 1790, para. 9.

fell on the Government of Bengal and the remittances to Canton from this source amounted, during this period, to twenty lakhs of rupees per annum and, on one occasion, went up to twenty-three lakhs.

There were various ways in which remittances were made. It seems that for the year 1787-88, Messrs. Price & Co. had entered into a contract for paying into the treasury at Canton the major part of the remittance required. The engagement had been fulfilled and, according to the terms of the contract, they had become entitled to similar engagements for the ensuing year. The details of the contract and its mode of operation are not available in these letters. The Governor-General thought, however, that this method was liable to great risk without adequate security and also it was objectionable as virtually constituting a monopoly. The contract, therefore, was not renewed and Price & Co. were given compensation in the shape of an advance of one lakh of rupees repayable after six months."

The usual method was to publish an advertisement for remittance to Canton, stating a definite rate of exchange. For instance, in the letters to Court, we are referred to a advertisement for a remittance to the extent of 20 lakhs of rupees at the exchange rate of 40 Spanish dollars for 100 rupees. Proposals for 18 lakhs of the total came and, for these, securities in form of the Company's paper or of responsible men of business in or about Calcutta were provided." These proposals came, in some cases from merchants who wanted to bring back the proceeds of their China trade. One such case is that of Fairlie, who paid into the treasury at Canton the sum of 60,000 new dollars in fulfilment of an engagement out of the proceeds of 5,000 peculs(?) of cotton which he had exported from Bombay." Another is the case of Redhead, who had engaged to supply three and a half lakhs of rupees to the Canton treasury out of the proceeds of cotton which he intended to export to China. Owing to an unexpected failure of cotton crops on the Malabar Coast, Redhead applied for cancellation of a part of his engagement to the extent of one and half lakhs but his request was refused."" On completion of their contracts, the supercargoes of Canton gave these merchants bills on the Government of Bengal at the agreed rate of exchange.

It also appears that in some cases, on their furnishing about one-fourth of the value of the goods in cash and personal securities of responsible businessmen, consignments of opium were handed over to individual merchants or firms, who took the goods to China and out of the sale proceeds paid the agreed amount to the treasury at

"Public Letter to Court, 10 March 1789, paras 94-95.

"Public Letters to Court, 7 December 1789, para. 2; 6 January 1790, para. 2.

"Public Letter to Court, 14 December 1792, para. 27.

"Public Letter to Court, 31 July 1790, para. 8.

Canton. One such case, to which we have already referred, was that of Cotton, who, however, had acted fraudulently from the very beginning and was ultimately sent to prison." Sometimes, owing to the unfavourable condition of the market, the goods could not be disposed of and the contract remained unfulfilled, as in the case of Canning." One long-drawn case was that of Bruere, who had failed to fulfil his obligations with regard to a China remittance in 1786 and whose securities were being pursued even in 1792. But in spite of these and a few other cases of partial failure like those of Captain John Lloyd and Messrs. Bayne, Colvin and Bazett", the system worked satisfactorily.

A rather curious thing happened with regard to the proposals for China remittance for 1792. There was a vast difference between the terms offered by one Fenwick and those of the rest of the proposers. As Fenwick could provide no responsible security nor would he agree to *pay money into the Canton Treasury under the security of the Company's paper*, his terms were rejected. The Court of Directors, however, raised the question as to whether or not this was to be regarded as "evidence of the existence of a combination among the merchants and moneyed men of the Settlement for the purpose of procuring from the Company unreasonable terms in effecting the China and other remittances" and exhorted the Governor-General and Council to spare no endeavours to effect future remittances on equitable terms."

Towards the end of our period, a new mode of remittance was proposed. No engagements were to be entered into by the Government of Bengal but the supercargoes at Canton were to be authorised to take up whatever sums they might annually require, granting certificates and specifying the rate of exchange at which the dollars were to be repaid in current rupees in Bengal. The certificates were also to contain a proviso that in the event the Government of Bengal did not find it convenient to pay the amount in cash, the debt was to be discharged by the issue of promissory notes at the current discount. The suggestions were not immediately adopted but the supercargoes at Canton were authorised to take up any sums that individuals might be inclined to pay into their treasury on the above conditions."

The prosperous condition of the China trade will be evident from the figures that are available for the year, 1 March 1788 to 1 March 1789. Net sale proceeds from China goods, after deducting

"Public Letter to Court, 10 August 1791, paras 41-58.

"Public Letter to Court, 3 September 1792, paras 51-55.

"Public Letter to Court, 10 August 1791, para. 72.

"Public Letter from Court, 6 February 1792, para. 20.

"Public Letter to Court, 3 September 1792, paras 60-61.

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"Public Letters to Court, 7 December 1789, para. 2; 6 January 1790, para. 2.

"Public Letter to Court, 14 December 1792, para. 27.

"Public Letter to Court, 31 July 1790, para. 8.

on this account, were, to be stoutly resisted. The plan was disapproved by the Nawab, and the Governor-General, again, wrote to him pointing out the unreasonableness of his objections. The Court also expressed concern at the Nawab's attitude.<sup>100</sup> However, Harrington, the Paymaster of the Nizam's Stipends, evolved a plan for liquidating the Nawab's debts in 11 years.<sup>101</sup>

The story is, incomplete and, rather incoherent, as the most important, part of the material is in the form of enclosures and these are not available to us.

### *The Patna Case*

In two letters, one to the Court<sup>102</sup> and the other from the Court,<sup>103</sup> some light is thrown on the last phase of the famous case of Nadira Begam *versus* Bahadur Beg and others, better known as, the Patna Case. The Supreme Court had decreed the suit, in favour of Nadira Begam who was also awarded damages to the amount of three lakhs of rupees. Against this decree an appeal had been filed, in the Privy Council. The Court wrote to the Governor-General and Council apprising them of, the then, condition, of, the appeal and asked them to carry out certain instructions in that connection. In reply, they were informed that the matter, had been placed, in the hands of the Company's Attorney-at-Law, who was to carry out the instructions in consultation with the Advocate General,

But soon, afterwards, the Governor-General, and Council, were informed that the appeal had been dismissed. When leave to appeal had been granted, it was made a condition that the decision of the Lords of Appeal was to be obtained within five years. As the time had elapsed, the Lords resolved not to hear the case. The merit of the case was not entered into at all and the Court asked the Governor-General and Council to consult their Law Officers as to whether it would be proper to file a bill in equity for, an injunction and for a declaration, that the bond setting the time-limit was not binding on, them. Together with this letter were also sent a copy of the, letter, of, the respondent's solicitor requesting postponement of the case and his affidavit, stating his own conduct, as also the affidavit of the Company's solicitor stating that he knew nothing of the bond limiting the time. The contention of the Court seems to be that these documents clearly proved that the respondent's solicitor took advantage of the ignorance of the Company's

<sup>100</sup>Public Letter from Court, 28. April 1790, paras 125-28; Public Letters to Court, 6 November 1790, paras 89-1; 31 January 1791, paras 51-53; Public Letter from Court, 8 February 1792, para. 39.

<sup>101</sup>Public Letter to Court, 27 April 1792, paras 94-100.

<sup>102</sup>Public Letter to Court, 10 March 1789, para. 83.

<sup>103</sup>Public Letter from Court, 29 April 1789, paras 1-5.

charges for customs, freight and merchandise, were £1,904,544. It expanded in the following years and the Court highly commended the attention of the Governor-General and Council to the increasing importance of this branch of the Company's trade.<sup>149</sup> But what appears striking is the tremendous burden that the Government of Bengal had to bear in the economy of the East India Company.

### *Manila*

It was Captain Light, the Superintendent of the Prince of Wales Island, who first formulated the outlines of a plan for establishing commercial intercourse between Bengal and Manila, and these were forwarded to the Court of Directors. But the Court had already entered into an agreement with the Royal Philippine Spanish Company for a commercial connection with Manila. This agreement does not appear to have worked well and differences arose with the Spanish Government. But the difficulties were removed by a convention signed on 28 October 1790, duly ratified by the King of Spain.<sup>150</sup> There is, however, no indication in these letters that this attempted commercial intercourse with Manila achieved any notable success.

### *Nizamat Affairs*

The Nizamat had, by this time, ceased to be of any political importance whatsoever, and its judicial powers were also finally taken away by Lord Cornwallis. The references that we have in these letters to the affairs of the Nizamat are thus not of much consequence, being mostly concerned with cases of petty stipendiaries and the debts of Nawab Mubarakud-Daulah.

The Nawab's finances had been in an embarrassing position for some time and in 1786 an officer named Ives was deputed to make an enquiry. Ives submitted his report in 1787, which was sent to the Court. Presumably, as a result of the steps taken on this occasion, a little over 9 lakhs of the Nawab's debts were cleared during the three years, 1788-90, leaving a balance of about 12 lakhs still to be cleared. The Governor-General again took up the matter and, with the approbation of the Council, certain instructions were sent to the Paymaster of the Nizamat Stipends and the Nawab also was informed of these by a letter. Matters were made complicated by the fact that there had been considerable overpayment on account of the Nawab's stipends. This was due to the negligent manner in which the accounts had been kept. The Court directed that the Nawab's claims

<sup>149</sup>Public Letter from Court, 15 December 1790, para. 36.

<sup>150</sup>Public Letter to Court, 10 August 1789, para. 46; Public Letter from Court, 15 December 1790, para. 79.



on this account, were to be stoutly resisted. The plan was disapproved by the Nawab, and the Governor-General again wrote to him pointing out the unreasonableness of his objections. The Court also expressed concern at the Nawab's attitude.<sup>100</sup> However, Harrington, the Paymaster of the Nizam's Stipends, evolved a plan for liquidating the Nawab's debts in 11 years.<sup>101</sup>

The story is incomplete and rather incoherent, as the most important part of the material is in the form of enclosures and these are not available to us.

### *The Patna Case*

In two letters, one to the Court<sup>102</sup> and the other from the Court,<sup>103</sup> some light is thrown on the last phase of the famous case of *Nadira Begam versus Bahadur Beg* and others, better known as the Patna Case. The Supreme Court had decreed the suit in favour of Nadira Begam who was also awarded damages to the amount of three lakhs of rupees. Against this decree an appeal had been filed in the Privy Council. The Court wrote to the Governor-General and Council apprising them of the then condition of the appeal and asked them to carry out certain instructions in that connection. In reply, they were informed that the matter had been placed in the hands of the Company's Attorney-at-Law, who was to carry out the instructions in consultation with the Advocate General.

But soon afterwards, the Governor-General and Council were informed that the appeal had been dismissed. When leave to appeal had been granted, it was made a condition that the decision of the Lords of Appeal was to be obtained within five years. As the time had elapsed, the Lords resolved not to hear the case. The merit of the case was not entered into at all and the Court asked the Governor-General and Council to consult their Law Officers as to whether it would be proper to file a bill in equity for an injunction and for a declaration that the bond setting the time-limit was not binding on them. Together with this letter were also sent a copy of the letter of the respondent's solicitor requesting postponement of the case and his affidavit stating his own conduct, as also the affidavit of the Company's solicitor stating that he knew nothing of the bond limiting the time. The contention of the Court seems to be that these documents clearly proved that the respondent's solicitor took advantage of the ignorance of the Company's

<sup>100</sup>Public Letter from Court, 28 April 1790, paras 125-28; Public Letters to Court, 6 November 1790, paras 89-1; 31 January 1791, paras 51-53; Public Letter from Court, 8 February 1792, para. 39.

<sup>101</sup>Public Letter to Court, 27 April 1792, paras 94-100.

<sup>102</sup>Public Letter to Court, 10 March 1789, para. 83.

<sup>103</sup>Public Letter from Court, 29 April 1789, paras 1-5.

"solicitor as to the time-limit and deliberately delayed the hearing of the appeal. It thus appears that Sir James Stephen's contention that 'the appeal was dismissed for want of prosecution and that the East India Company did not dare to have the appeal argued, is not quite correct.'"

But the Court's real object in talking about these proceedings was to bring Nadira Begam to a moderate frame of mind. they were convinced that any accommodation, whatever, was preferable to further litigation and they exhorted the Governor-General and Council to try their best to obtain a reduction in her demand.

### *Financial Statements*

#### *Letters to Court*

The accounts of revenues and charges of the three years 1785-86 to 1787-88 show a steady increase of income and decline of expenditure under the able management of Lord Cornwallis. Bengal revenues rose from current rupees 4,98,91,783 in 1785 to C.Rs. 5,18,27,117 and charges fell from C.Rs. 4,06,56,341 to C.Rs. 3,11,71,300. The most important source of income was, of course, land revenue—about three crores on average; next in importance was revenue from salt sales. The Oudh subsidies and Benares revenues also formed a substantial part of the Bengal income. Military and revenue charges were the largest items of disbursement, though they showed appreciable decline under Cornwallis, the former from C.Rs. 1,99,59,189 to 1,48,13,204. Civil charges were only one third of this. Opium was hardly a profitable concern with 50% of income spent on charges of establishment.

Madras charges exceeded its revenues in all these years; while the latter increased from pagodas 24,20,310 to 25,46,499, the former increased from pagodas 27,38,746 to 32,61,890. The deficit was still higher at Bombay while revenues ranged from B. Rs. 11, 94, 183 in 1785 to B. Rs. 11,29,976, the charges ranged from B. Rs. 47,71,024 to B. Rs. 4,7,18,509 and even rose to B. Rs. 88,04,489 in 1786-87. Military charges ate away most of the income here. While in Bengal and Madras land revenue formed the biggest source of income, in Bombay the principal source—though a meagre one—was the income from Customs. Fort Marlbro' was in a still worse state of finances its charges being twenty-five times higher than its revenues.

The Company was thus dependent on its Bengal surplus for defraying the charges at the other settlements. Considering the sale value of its imported goods—on average C. Rs. 2,630,642 and of certificates—on average C. Rs. 5,94,270—the resources which it could apply to

<sup>108</sup>*The Story of Nuncomar and the Impeachment of Sir Elijah Impey*, Vol. II, p. 191.

the purchase of its Indian investments had to be met either out of shipment of bullion to India which it had discontinued or out of borrowing to which it had been largely having recourse in recent years.

The picture that emerges from the records of these years is very gloomy. Bengal was being bled white for investments as well as for imperial expansion, and large-scale borrowing only mortgaged the future of the country for the present benefit of the European capitalists.

### *Letters from Court*

We have already made some observations on the finances of the Company. The letters from Court, however, provide us with another set of financial statements which were considered by the House of Commons on 3 May 1790. But the curious thing is that these two sets of financial statements vary in almost all particulars for all the years concerned (1785-86, 1786-87, 1787-88, and 1788-89). The reason for this is to be found in a letter written by the Accountant General of Bengal to Lord Cornwallis. The statement of accounts of the East India Company was required to be placed before the Parliament within the first fourteen sitting days after 1 February. This could not be complied with and, in explaining the delay that had occurred in completing the actual account of the receipts and disbursements of the Presidency of Bengal for the year 1787-88 and the estimate for the year 30 April 1788 to 1 May 1789, the Accountant General said that it was differently stated in different books and that this defect could hardly be avoided so long as the General Books of the Presidency were so heavily in arrears.<sup>100</sup> The discrepancies are thus accounted for, but the Accountant General stated further that the adjustment and close of the General Books of 1787-88 had been accomplished; as such it seems that the second set of financial statements are to be regarded as more accurate.

This is a matter into which it is not possible to enter here in detail. The general position, however, does not appear to be much different from what we have already stated in connection with the earlier statements. As before, Madras and Bombay were running in deficit. The Madras figures for 1788-89 show a deficit of 4,55,421 *cit*. The Madras figures for 1788-89 are not available, but in pagodas. The Bombay figures for 1788-89 are not available, but the figures for 1787-88 the deficit is shown at 35,88,533 *rupees* and the figures for 1789-90 it is visualized at 37,11,049 *rupees*. As in the estimate for 1789-90 the most pitiable plight was that of the Residency of Fort Marlbro'. In the estimate for 1788-89, the revenues

<sup>100</sup>Public Letter to Court, 12 March 1789, paras 2-4.

are shown at 13,480 Spanish dollars and the charges at 189,500 Spanish dollars. Once again, Bengal figures are the only redeeming feature wherein we find, for the year 1788-89, a net surplus of C. Rs. 2,48,18,598. Of this amount roughly something more than eighty lakhs had to be provided for investment<sup>114</sup> and twenty lakhs for China remittances. A substantial amount had to be spent in regular aids to Madras, Bombay, Andamans and the Prince of Wales Island and occasional aids to Fort Marlbro'; but still it was possible to reduce the debts of the Company in Bengal by nearly thirty lakhs of rupees. The position thus appears somewhat better than what was seen earlier. It should be noted, however, that the Bengal Government also got about 16 lakhs of rupees from the sale of imported goods and certificates issued on the Court of Directors, so that about half the debt reduction was, in reality, the shifting of the burden from one head to another.

These statements are detailed and are on a large variety of items. For instance, in the case of Madras the revenue is shown under the following heads—coinage duties, land and sea customs, subsidies from the Nawab of Arcot and Raja of Tanjore, land revenue, farms and licences. Similarly, expenditure is shown under the heads civil, military, buildings and fortifications, and charges on the revenues and customs. In the case of the civil establishment, the rank, pay and other emoluments of each officer employed at the Presidency are separately given, as also of those who served in the factories like Cuddalore, Masulipatam, Negapatam, Ganjam, etc. Persons serving as Residents at Indians courts (for instance at Tanjore) and their staff are also included in this list. Similar details are available with regard to Bengal and Bombay.

Figures relating to the East Indies and Chinese trade, of amounts received in the three Presidencies from the sale of imported goods and stores, of bond and other debts of the East India Company at their several Presidencies in the East Indies and in Great Britain, and of the annual charges defrayed by the East India Company for the management of their trade and commerce in the different Presidencies, all these are available in these letters. But this list is merely illustrative and by no means exhaustive, and there can be no doubt that these documents are bound to reward a close and careful study.

<sup>114</sup>Public Letter to Court, 10 March 1789, para. 106.

## LETTERS FROM COURT

5. Directions being given in our Letter of the 27th March 1787 for the annual transmission of an Indent of Stationary from your Presidency as formerly we have been rather disappointed in not receiving one this year.

6 It is an omission however we suppose may have arisen from your not being sufficiently prepared when your last dispatch came away, to determine on the supply which under your intended regulations might be necessary for your annual Service.

7. Having upon reference to the Proceedings in your Public Department observed that some purchases of Stationary have been made at your Presidency since the arrival of our Orders under the above-mentioned date, we have therefore judged it advisable to send you a larger supply this Season than last, but at the same time we trust that proper regulations being established in respect to the expenditure of this article, it will be found that a much smaller quantity may hereafter suffice, the supply now sent being considerably more than three times the quantity deemed necessary by the Governor & Council at Fort St. George for the annual Service of that Presidency and its Subordinates.

8. The investigation of the Board of Trade into the expenditure of Stationary in the Commercial Department, has not escaped our notice, but we decline making any particular remarks on this subject at present, finding that the whole matter has been referred by them to the Governor General in Council, and being therefore in expectation of a regular communication of the facts from the Public Department with your resolutions thereupon. A very large quantity of Port fire paper having been indented for by the Military Department at your Presidency but no mention being made in regard to the size, we direct that in future whenever any of this sort of paper is indented for, the size or sizes required be particularly specified. The quantity now indented for we have ordered to be sent of different sizes.

Answer to the Letter in the Public Department dated 27th July 1787.

9. (Par. 1@5) Need no reply.

10. (6@65) These Paragraphs will be replied to in the Commercial Department.

11. (66@68) These Paragraphs are under the consideration of the Company's Law Officers.

12. (69@82) We are sorry to learn from your subsequent Proceedings particularly those of the 18th January 1788 that Mr. Bruere's Engagements of 1785/6 and 1786/7 for paying money into the

quality of the Rice being submitted to the examination of five Merchants residing at Fort St. George well calculated to prevent future complaints of this nature. We observe however by subsequent advices that the Contract has been annulled.

17. (86 @ 88) We approve of the means that have been pursued for liquidating the debt due to the King of Travancore, as advised in these Paragraphs and in your subsequent Dispatch of the 15th of December 1787.

18. (89) This Paragraph is under the consideration of the Company's Law Officers.

19. (90 @ 96) Need no reply.

20. (97 @ 99) These Paragraphs will be replied to in the Commercial Department.

21. (100, 101) We are sorry to learn from these Paragraphs and from your subsequent Advices of the 15th, December 1787 that the expence of the Schooners lately constructed at Bombay for your Pilot Service is likely to turn out unreasonable; but we shall be better able to form a judgment herein when we shall be furnished with the Report of your Marine Paymaster to whose examination the Accounts have been referred.

22. (102) Needs no reply.

23. (103, 104) These Paragraphs are under the consideration of the Committee of Shipping; with respect to the Sums to be charged for the use of the Mooring Chains laid in the Bengal River as mentioned in the 7th Para. of your Public Letter of the 6th March 1787, we have agreed with the Owners of Shipping that for each Ship that has lain, or may in future lay at these Moorings they shall be charged in their Account of Freight & Demorage at the rate of five hundred current Rupees P Calender Month for the time the ship may or shall have lain there and we shall continue to send out annually a sufficient supply of Anchors, Chains and other Articles necessary to keep up the Moorings.

24. (105 @ 109) We have attentively read & considered Lord Cornwallis's Minute of the 27th July 1787 proposing the appointment of a Secretary General and the other arrangements in consequence thereof and very much approve of a measure which has afforded ample rewards to respectable & laborious Officers without any additional expence to the Company; We likewise approve of the distribution of Fees as contained in his Lordship's beforementioned Minute.

25. (110) Having perused the accompanying Copy of a Letter from Mr. Bruere in answer to a complaint made by the Governor &

Council of St. Helena relative to the Stores sent to that Island from your Presidency we agree with you in opinion that Mr. Bruere's justification of his conduct in this respect is satisfactory.

26. (111 @ 113) Need no reply.

27. (114,115) We have already signified our approbation of the intended Establishment of a Botanical Garden at your Settlement, with respect to the different Plants which it is the wish of Colonel Kyd might be sent from England we shall make the necessary enquiry and acquaint you with the result, after we shall have consulted Sir Joseph Banks upon that subject.

28. The remainder of this Letter needs no reply.

Answer to the Letter in the Public Department dated the 1st September 1787.

29. (Par. 1 @ 18) These Paragraphs will be replied to in the Commercial Department.

30. (19 @ 31) We approve of your attention to the General Interests of the Company in the Supplies you have voted between the 30th April 1787 and 1st of May 1788 to the other Presidencies and China. We were *indeed* surprised to find that your actual disbursements on the same account the preceding year, and the Debts incurred, exceeded the Sum originally intended to the amount of Curr. Rups. 24 27,431 occasioned principally as you inform us by the heavy Military Arrears of the other Presidencies which being now provided for, we hope the appropriation of Rups. 10 1,20,000 will prove amply sufficient. We are pleased at the information contained in these Paragraphs of the restoration of the Company's Credit at your Presidency, instanced in the reduced rate of the Discount on your Paper.

31. (32) Needs no reply. We observe however by a Letter to you from the Gentlemen at Fort Marlbro' of the 4th September 1787 that they have made a very strong representation respecting the case of the Civil Servants there under the operation of our Orders of the 21st March 1786; but before we reconsider the subject we wish to be acquainted with your sentiments thereon.

32. (33 @ 35) We have already expressed our disapprobation of the conduct of the Council at Fort Marlbro' in drawing Bills upon you without your previous sanction.

33. (36) As we rely on your using from time to time the best means that may occur to you for affording the usual Supplies to the Canton Treasury, we do not think proper to adopt the proposals of Mr. George



Smith for that purpose, and which you have forwarded to our consideration, especially after your declaration that you have transmitted his Letter upon the subject more from a motive of attention to Mr. Smith's request than from any favourable Opinion of his Plan.

34. (37) Already replied to.

35. (38) Needs no reply.

36. (39 @ 43) These Paragraphs will be replied to in Commercial Department.

37. The remainder of this Letter needs no reply.

38. In order to prevent in future the necessity of exporting Bullion from England, and to encourage the Trade from the East Indies to China, where the demand for Piece Goods & ca. the produce of India is greatly encreasing and by which the Revenues of the Company will be greatly augmented, we have thought proper to direct the Exchange at Canton for Bills to be drawn on the Court of Directors to be fixed for three years at five Shillings and three pence half penny (5s. 3½d.) the old Dollar payable at 12 Months sight, and at five Shillings and seven pence (5s. 7d) P. Old Dollar when the Bills are drawn payable at 24 Months sight.

We are

Your Affectionate Friends

London	Nath Smith/W. Devaynes/John Roberts;
the 18th February 1789.	Thos. Pattle/W. Bensley/George Tatcm/
[Per Melville Castle]	Lionel Darell/J. Smith/John Travers/Tho.
	Cheap/Jn. Townson/Abra'm Roberts/Step.
	Lushington/Robt. Thornton/Thos. Parry

2

## LETTER DATED 21 FEBRUARY 1789

TO Edward Hay Esqr., Secretary to the Right Hon'ble the Governor General and the Council in Bengal, Or to the Secretary for the time being.

The Court of Directors have granted a Set of Bills of Exchange on the Governor General and Council, for Current Rupees Four hundred and Eighty, at two Shillings and one penny the Rupee, and Thirty

Days Sight, payable to Mr. John Debonaire, for Pounds Sterling Fifty,  
received of Mr. Edward Gordon, dated the 13th Instant.

I am,

Sir,

Your most Obedient,

Humble Servant,

East India House,  
London, 21st February 1789.  
[Per *Melville Castle*]

Thos. Morton  
Secry.

3

LETTER DATED 21 FEBRUARY 1789

TO Edward Hay Esqr., Secretary to the Right Hon'ble the Governor  
General and the Council in Bengal, Or to the Secretary for the  
time being.

Sir,

The Court of Directors have granted a Set of Bills of Exchange on  
the Governor General and Council for Current Rupees Four hundred  
and Eighty at two Shillings and one Penny the Rupee, and Thirty Days  
Sight, payable to Mr. John Debonaire, for Pounds Sterling Fifty, re-  
ceived of Mr. Edward Gordon dated the 13th Instant.

I am also to enclose a Receipt for Two hundred and thirteen whole  
Faggotts Steel, received on board the General Goddard which came  
to hand too late for that Ships Packet.

I am,

Sir,

Your most Obedient,

Humble Servant,

East India House,  
London, 21st February 1789.  
[Per *General Goddard*]

Thos. Morton  
Secry.

## LETTER DATED 27 MARCH 1789

TO Edward Hay Esqr

Sir

I have the pleasure to acquaint you of the safe Arrival of the Company's Ship William Pitt Captn Mitchell off Dover the 22nd Instant

I am,

Sir

Your most Ob'dient  
Humble Servant

East India House  
the 27th March 1789  
[Per La Maria]

Thos Morton  
Secry

## LETTER DATED 8 APRIL 1789

*Appointment of Company's servants—payment of Macpherson's salary—Botanical Garden—cultivation of tea—disbursement of Nizamat stipends—voyage to Arakan—aid for Gilchrist's Dictionary—transfer of Indian debt of the Company to Europe by bills of exchange on the Court—aid to Bombay—Nawab of Arcot's debts—creation of Political Department*

OUR Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal

1 We wrote to you last in this Department under date of the 18 February

2 On the 29th December last we received overland your General Letter dated the 5th June 1788

3 Having an high Opinion of the merits and abilities of Peter Speke Esquire we have appointed him a Member of the Supreme Council to supply the vacancy occasioned therein by the Resignation of Sir John Macpherson Baronet

4 Mr Joseph Bernard Smith has obtained our leave to return to his rank in our Civil Service at your Presidency

5. We have permitted Mr. William Burray to proceed to your Presidency to practise as a Barrister in the Supreme Court of Judicature.

6. Having thought fit to appoint Messrs. Henry Browne, John Harrison, George Cuming, Alexander Bruce, Charles Edward Pigou and Henry Lane to be a Select Committee of Supra Cargos, with full powers to transact the Company's business in China: We direct that you address the said Committee whenever our Affairs shall render it necessary for you to Correspond with our Servants at Canton

7. We have appointed Messrs David Lance, Thomas Freeman, Thomas Kuyck Van Microp, William Fitzhugh, Richard Hall, Samuel Peach and Hugh Parkin to be Supra Cargos under our said Select Committee.

8. We have resolved that the salary due to Sir John Macpherson be paid to him in England and that the same be calculated at the rate of Ten thousand Pounds Pr. Annum from the 1st August 1787 the day on which payment was stopped by the Supreme Council to the 11 Ultimo the day on which he sent in his Letter of Resignation to the Court of Directors which amounts to Fifteen thousand three hundred & one pounds seven Shillings and we have further Resolved that the fifty Thousand Rupees agreed to be presented to him by the Court of Directors as advised in our Dispatch of the 28th March 1788 be paid to his Attorneys in Bengal.

9. We have permitted Mr. Charles Purling to return to his Rank at your Presidency—And we recommend that he be employed in one of the first Situations under the Government that may be vacant and consistent with his Rank in the Service.

10. We have permitted Mr. Charles Chapman to return to his Rank in Our Civil Service on your Establishment, and from the very favourable and pointed manner in which this Gentleman was mentioned to us in your General Letter dated 28th February 1786 Paragraph Ten we are inclined to hope his good Character, Experience and Abilities will render him an Acquisition to Our Service.

11. Mr. Benjamin Macdonald has obtained our leave to proceed to India under Free Mariner's Indentures.

12. We have since come to a Resolution to license Twenty six persons to proceed as Free Mariners exclusive of the above Mr Macdonald.

13. And the following Persons have our permission to proce to India in part of that number: Charles Mathew, William Layme George Gordon, Edward King, George Augustus Winder, Honble Jol Cochrane, John Roberts, William Mears, Arthur Smith, Henry Ha John Palmer, Richard Peacocke, Charles James, William Doolan.

14. We enclose you a Copy of Sir Joseph Bank's observations c the Papers received from your Presidency in the past Season relativ to the Botanical Garden at Calcutta, and recommend the same to you attentive perusal and particularly the hints thrown out by Sir Josep respecting the Culture of Tea in the Rohillcund Country, and in th Dominions of the Lama of Thibet, on the Subject of which, after pro curing the best information, you will give us your sentiments at larg in a point of view both political and Commercial. The Trees mention ed by Sir Joseph were shipped on the Melville Castle & Genl. Goddard we are extremely glad that the attention hitherto shown by Colonel Kyd to this Object is deserving of the highest encomiums.

Answer to the Letter in the Public Department dated 7th September, 1787.

15. (Par. 1 @ 9) Need no reply.

16. (10 @ 11) Any reply to these Paragraphs is rendered unnecessa- sary, as your Subsequent Advices of the 5th of June last inform us that you have dissolved the Connection which subsisted between the Com- pany and the General Bank.

17. (12 @ 14) These Paratgraphs will be replied to in the Commer- cial Department.

18. (Par. 1 @ 9) Need no reply.

19. The Postscript to this Letter dated 14 September will be re- plied to in the Commercial Department.

Answer to the Letters in the Public Department dated the 18th and 29th September 1787.

20. The whole of these Letters (except the last Paragraph of that of the 18th which needs no reply) being on Commercial Subjects will be replied to in that Department.

Answer to such parts of the Secret Letter of the 16 August 1787 as are in the Public Department.

21. (Par. 1) Needs no Reply.



Nawab Mubarakud, Daulah.

22. (2 @ 24) We have traced upon your Records the measures that have been adopted in consequence of our Orders of the 21 July 1786 respecting the Nabob Mobarick-ul-Dowlah, and approve thereof. We have also read Mr. Ives's Report and the Papers annexed thereto; upon the general Arrangements to be made in the disbursements of the Nizamut, entered upon your Consultations of the 17 September 1787. It is upon your Opinion and proceedings on this Report that we must form our own judgement, as to the extent of the assistance to be afforded the Nabob in consequence of his increasing Family. But as we do not find either from your Consultations or advices that you have yet come to any determination thereon we must necessarily postpone our further directions upon this Subject to a future Opportunity. We are pleased however to find by the Nabob's Letter to Lord Cornwallis of the 5 February 1788, that his Dewan Rajah Soonder Singh had received his dismission.

23. (25 @ 114) These Paragraphs will be replied to in the Military Department.

24. (115) This Paragraph is replied to in the Revenue Department.

Answer to the Letter in the Public Department of 15th December 1787.

25. (Par. 1) In answer to this Paragraph we must again remind you of our repeated directions to keep your Correspondence to the arrangement we have prescribed—A departure from it is attended with great embarrassment in the conduct and regularity of our Correspondence. In the present instance in place of your detail of Military, Public, and Revenue being in one General Letter the narrative upon each branch ought to have been in a separate Letter.

26. (2 @ 47) These Paragraphs will be referred to in the Military Department.

27. (48 @ 98) These Paragraphs will be replied to in the Commercial Department.

28. (99) Needs no reply.

29. (100.101) Already referred to.

30. (102) This Paragraph will be replied to in the Commercial Department.

46. (43) The Orders contained in the 9th Paragraph of our Letter in the Public Department of the 20th August last, respecting the Subsistence allowed to the late Mr. Walter renders any further reply to this Paragraph unnecessary.

47. (44,45) Needs no reply.

48. The remainder of this Letter is answered in the Revenue Department.

Answer to the General Letter dated 29 January 1788

49. (Par. 1 @ 10) These Paragraphs are replied to in the Military Department.

50. (11) Needs no reply.

51. (12 @ 17) These Paragraphs are replied to in the Commercial Department.

52. (18,19) We approve of your having dispatched the Greyhound Cruiser on a voyage to the Island of Cheduba<sup>1</sup>, on the Coast of Arracan for the purposes mentioned in these Paragraphs—As the return of the Greyhound was expected by the end of March we hope shortly to hear the result of her Voyage.

53. (20 @ 22) These Paragraphs are replied to in the Commercial Department.

54. (23 @ 24) Will be replied to hereafter.

55. (25) The subject of this Paragraph is under the consideration of the Committee of Law Suits.

56. (26) Needs no reply.

57. (27,28) We have read the Memorial of Sir Charles Blunt referred to in these Paragraphs, requesting the repayment of the amount which he had been allowed to draw for Subsistence, as a Servant out of employ, and which was refunded in consequence of our Orders of the 27th March 1787, and in consideration of what is therein set forth, and of your recommendation in support of the Justice of the Claim we have agreed to comply with his request.

58. (29,30) Need no reply.

Answer to the General Letter dated 12th February 1788

59. (Par. 1 @ 13) These Paragraphs are replied to in the Military Department.



32. (106) You were in the right to give obedience to the positive Orders conveyed to you on the subject of these Dawk bearers at the same time if you were of opinion that the institution for any Public reasons was worth the expence which it would cost; we should not *have* been dissatisfied to have received your observations on the Subject, together with the grounds of your opinion so as to have enabled us with the whole materials before us to have re-considered our own Opinion.

33. (107,108) These Paragraphs will be replied to in the Military Department.

34. (109 @ 114) Need no reply.

35. (115,116) In reply to these Paragraphs we have to acquaint you that on the 11th February last Sir John Mc. Pherson resigned the Company's Service.

36. (117 @ 119) We approve of the Resolutions for regulating the Charges of the Press referred to in these Paragraphs.

37. The remainder of this Letter will be replied to in the Revenue Department.

Answer to the General Letter dated 12 January 1788

38. (Par. 1 @ 18) These Paragraphs are replied to in the Military Department.

39. (19) Needs no reply.

40. (20 @ 32) These Paragraphs are replied to in the Commercial Department.

41. (33 @ 35) Need no reply.

42. (36,37) Already replied to.

43. (38 @ 40) These Paragraphs will be replied to in the Commercial Department.

44. (41) Needs no reply.

45. (42) In reply to this Paragraph we need only refer you to the Resolution of the Court of Directors recited in the 108 Paragraph of our Letter in the Public Department of the 28th March, 1788, Viz.

"That no Civil Servant is entitled to the Allowances mentioned in the Court's Orders to Bengal of the 21st September 1785 and 27th March 1787 who came home either on account of health or of private affairs."

of the 11th April 1785, and that drawn by the Accountant General to the Revenue Department from receipt of the above Orders to the 19th February 1788, as we think his Situation is more laborious than the Accountant to the Revenue Department, and are satisfied with Mr. Larkins's Abilities and diligence in discharging his Official Duties in order to shew our favourable opinion thereof we have agreed to comply with his request.

77. The Observation in Mr. Larkins's Letter respecting Emoluments derived by the heads of Offices from the Established allowances drawn by them for Assistants, fully evinces the propriety of the measures recommended to your consideration in the 160th Paragraph of our Letter in the Military Department of 31st July 1787, Viz. the striking off such Allowances and admitting of the drawing for the expenses actually incurred only. We were induced to give those directions from a surmise that Emoluments had been derived from the fixed Sums allowed for Writers & ca. We therefore positively prohibit such practices in future.

78. (64 @ 81) Such of the Subjects mentioned in these Paragraphs as required an answer have already been replied to, except those which relate to Law Matters, which are under consideration.

79. (82) We approve of the encouragement to Mr. Gilchrist in further aid of the publication of his Dictionary mentioned in this Paragraph.

80. The remainder of this Letter will be replied to in the Revenue Department.

Answer to the General Letter dated 5 June 1788

81. (Par: 1, 2) Need no reply.

82. (3 @ 6) We have perused Lord Cornwallis's Minute referred to in these Paragraphs on the Subject of the Orders contained in our General Letter of the 31st July 1787, concerning the liquidation of the Company's Indian Debts by Bills of Exchange upon the Court of Directors. Persuaded as we are that in his Lordship's Opinion the terms he proposed were the most equitable to all the parties concerned, and the most likely to procure the object in view, namely a transfer of the Indian Debt to Europe, we hereby confirm the same.

83. (7) The information contained in this Paragraph respecting the dissolution of your Connection with the General Bank has given us great satisfaction as we had many objections to urge which it is unnecessary now to repeat, to a longer continuance to that connection

60. (14 @ 16) need no reply.

61. (17 @ 20) Already replied to.

62. (21) Needs no reply.

63. (22) Already replied to.

64. (23) Needs no reply.

65. (24,25) These Paragraphs are under the consideration of the Committee of Law Suits.

66. (26 @ 29) Already replied to.

67. (30) This Paragraph is under the consideration of the Committee of Law Suits.

68. (31 @ 36) Need no reply.

69. (37) We acquiesce in the reasons which induced you to annul the Contract made by Mr. Tyler for the supply of Rice to our Presidency of Madras.

70. The remainder of this Letter will be replied to in the Revenue Department.

Answer to the General Letter dated 6th March 1788

71. (Par. 1) Needs no reply.

72. (2) We are satisfied with the reasons you have given in this Paragraph for not having arranged your Correspondence in separate Letters from the several Departments conformable to our Orders, and approve of your intention of keeping separate Records to correspond with the Arrangement and we hope your future Correspondence and proceedings will be kept perfectly distinct.

73. In your Correspondence with the Secret Committee you will confine yourselves to the subject and be governed by the Restrictions pointed out in the late Act of Parliament, in respect to the powers and duty of that Committee. And your proceedings upon all such subjects must be kept distinct from your other proceedings.

74. (3 @ 58) These Paragraphs are replied to in the Military Department.

75. (59 @ 62) Need no reply.

76. (63) We have considered the Representation of Mr. Larkins your Accountant General referred to in this Paragraph requesting to draw the difference between the Salary allowed him by our Orders

One Set for Current Rupees Four hundred & Eighty or Pounds Sterling Fifty payable to John Debonnaire, received of Mr. Edward Gordon dated the 13th February 1789.

C.R. 480.50

91. As we daily feel much convenience in the dispatch of business by the arrangement we have made in the conduct of our Correspondence with you. We think that Arrangement may be further improved by the Addition of a Political Department by which we mean all Correspondence with or relative to other powers in India, whether Native or European according therefore to this and our former Orders, each conveyance will bring to us your Dispatches under five separate Heads, and in five separate Letters Viz. Public Political Military, Revenue and Commercial, besides what may be necessary for you to address to the Secret Committee in terms of the Act of Parliament.

We are Your Affectionate Friends,

Nath. Smith/W. Devaynes/Step. Lushington  
/Lionel Darell/J. Smith/Jas. Moffatt/  
George Tattem/T. Pattle/W. Elphinstone/  
John Travers/John Hunter/W. Bensley/  
Tho. Parry/A. Robarts.

London  
the 8th April 1789.

*Enclosure*

[Vide paragraph 14]

Botanic Garden at Calcutta

Too much praise cannot be given to the sagacity of the Governor General in proposing, or to the liberality of the Court of Directors in patronizing, the Execution of a Plan replete with benevolence as this undoubtedly is, if properly supported it cannot fail of Success, in bringing from other Countries such Fruits and esculent Vegetables as the Climate of Bengal is adapted to produce, tho' nature has denied them to its Inhabitants, and few if any intertropical Plants have hitherto been observed to fail if carefully attended to in Latitudes not widely different from their own; nor can it fail of drawing from the Jungles and Deserts hitherto unexplored, Articles of Commerce which Europe, China and even Bengal itself, now receive from other Countries, and promoting the Introduction and Cultivation of Articles useful to the Manufactures of Great Britain and consequently important to the Investments of India.

The activity and disinterestedness with which Colonel Kyd has seconded the views of the Governor and Council on this subject is also deserving of the highest Encomiums, and it is submitted whether an

84. (8) We are much pleased with the attention you have paid to the wants of our Presidency of Bombay, and with the prospect unnecessary now to repeat, to a longer continuance to that connection.

85. (9 @ 11) Need no reply.

86 (12) We have already assigned our reasons in our *Advices* to the Madras Government, a Copy of which is enclosed as usual, why we decline for the present giving any opinion on the several matters in dispute between that Government, and the Committee of Private Creditors of the Nabob of Arcot. We trust our Orders to Madras of 28th August 1788 will have superceded the grounds of such disputes it is our earnest desire to prevent them for notwithstanding all the difficulties which have attended that business, both in the decision we formed and in the progress of its arrangement. We remain perfectly satisfied of the *Wisdom and Policy of the measures* we adopted for the liquidation of those Debts; if that measure had not been adopted it would have been difficult to reconcile with our Opinion of justice and Policy, two considerations in the first place, the Annulling all the private Secrecities which had been granted by the Nabob to his Private Creditors; and which were done away by the Assignment of his Revenues to Government, during the Administration of Lord Macartney; 2ndly. The leaving perpetually open to Intrigue and Importunity the Durbar of the Nabob, which could be with Justice excluded only by the Interposition of Government for the purpose of liquidating those Debts. We mean not by these observations to impress you with an Idea that the Justice or fairness of these Claims upon the Nabob had been indiscriminately recognized by our Approbation; but upon the whole consideration of the Subject. We remain perfectly decided upon the propriety of the measures we adopted in our Orders of the 9th December 1784.

87. We have permitted Mr. John Scott to return to our Civil Service at your Presidency without prejudice to his Rank.

88. Mr. George Colebrooke has our leave to proceed to Bengal and remain there two years to adjust his Family concerns.

89. We have received your several advices by the Ship William Pitt. We reply by this dispatch to the Governor General's Letter of the 2nd November 1788, and shall take an early Opportunity by the Ships of the ensuing Season of transmitting Answers to the other *Advices*

90. We have drawn the following set of Bills of Exchange on you, payable at thirty days sight and two Shillings and one penny the Rupee. Vixt.

present themselves I shall from time to time communicate them to the Court of Directors. In the meantime on the subject of receiving annual supplies from distant Countries which the Superintendent seems to expect I cannot omit observing, that when any species[sic] is fairly established in the Garden the trouble of propagating and increasing it there, will be so small in comparison of that of transporting again and again individuals of the same kind from Europe or China that as it is not reasonable to expect or demand the latter the former method ought to be recommended.

As the Superintendent wishes for a supply of Fruit Trees from England it is probable that the Court of Directors will order some to be sent out by such Commanders of the Company's Vessels as are most willing and best able to take charge of them for this purpose the sorts which ripen latest in this climate are to be preferred, but it is much to be feared that the climate of Bengal will prove too hot ever for them, as a great part of the success of those carried out by Captain Cumming of the *Britannia*, all of which succeeded, is to be attributed to the skill and care with which they were packed, I shall venture to recommend Mr. Dixon of Covent Garden Market who supply'd and pack'd as a proper Person to be applied to on this occasion.

As your Superintendant has failed in his attempt to establish the Culture of Tea and the obstacles to his success I mean the climate of Bengal and the impossibility of procuring from China persons skilled in the Culture and Manufacture of it seem irremediable, I shall venture a few hints on that important Subject.

Tea which is fit, for the European Market is Cultivated in Hilly if not Mountainous[sic] Districts of the middle Provinces of China, and by no means either in the Southern or Northern parts of that Empire.

The Rohilcund Countries near the ridge of Mountains which bounds it to the North offers a climate sufficiently similar and seems to promise a Soil [sic] and exposure equally proper for that Cultivation, if so the Ganges affords a cheap carriage from thence to Calcutta itself.

The Lama of Thibet or his people might be induced on proper terms and large ones could certainly be afforded to procure at once not only Plants but a Colony of Chinese skilled in the Culture and Manufacture of this important Article.

The settling such a Colony in the Dominions of an Ally cannot be considered as bad policy if as is presumed to be the case the influence of the Company is sufficient to insure a monopoly of the produce.

*Approbation from the Court of Directors of his exemplary Conduct on this occasion which seems to be the main spring that gives Energy to the whole Undertaking has not been well deserved.*

As the Establishment is still in its infant state few Observations on the mode of conducting it can be expected to occur the immense size of the enclosure however which cannot be less than 50 Acres appears liable to many objections, the clearing it from Brush Wood and Weeds employed 9 Overseers and a hundred Labourers for some length of time, the Cultivation therefore cannot be carried on at a moderate expence, and as the produce must be considerable, a danger of Peculation by appropriating that produce to the use of a future Superintendent cannot but exist however amply the integrity and independance of Col Kyd renders the present secure from every apprehension of that nature.

The loss indeed supposing such Conduct to be carried to the utmost extent can never be an object to the Company, but it always happens when Labour and Land are to be apportioned between Public and Private advantage at the option of a defaulter that the interest of the latter experiences a regularly progressive decline, it appears therefore to me that if the Garden is established on this extensive Plan the Seeds of it's certain dissolution will be sown at the very moment of it's institution.

The Royal Botanic Garden at Kew in which more than 5,000 Trees Plants and Shrubs are growing together does not contain more than 2 Acres within the Walls and the Nursery Men in the Neighbourhood of London who supply the Market seldom occupy above ten Acres.

The Garden is intended for the reception and cultivation of such Plants as seem likely to prove useful in some shape or other and the plan is bounded by that very rational line, I conclude then that when a sufficient number of any species has been distributed to ensure it's establishment in the Country the Superintendent will retain in the Garden no more than a few individuals of it is a matter of mere curiosity.

For these purposes and for that of trying experiments which sometimes tho seldom he may be under the necessity of undertaking, I should think the size of the Royal Botanic Garden at Kew fully sufficient and have no doubt that by concentrating the business in that small compass, he will be able to direct and manage it with more ease and greater effect than he could if spread over the enormous extent of 50 Acres.

On the subject of purer objects for Cultivation the Superintendent who appears to have taken unwearied pains has pointed out all that at present occur[s] to me, if however in the course of reading, others should

and on 28th September 1774 a Further Sum of Four Thousand Six hundred Rupees by Order of the Court of Appeals. That subsequent to the Appeal made to the King in Council; the parties settled their disputes, and that by the Agreement made upon that occasion the whole money deposited in the Company's Cash was to be paid to Mr. Pigou in order to his dividing it amongst the parties according to their Rights that in April 1781 he sent full powers to India authorizing Messrs Robert Home Knot & Kellican Jointly and severally to receive the money and to consent to the obtaining the necessary Orders of Court for the purpose but that on Mr. Holmes applying for the money he found that on 26th February 1782 the One thousand four hundred Rupees had been paid to Captain Thompson the Commander of an Indiaman, on his giving the Governor and Council a Bond of Indemnity. It is insisted on the part of Mr. Pigou that Captain Thompson had no right to receive the money, and that therefore the Company is liable to pay it again, and to take their remedy upon the Bond of Indemnity.

4. We are wholly ignorant of this Transaction except as it is related to us as above from which state we cannot but suspect from the circumstance of taking the Bond of Indemnity that there may have been some irregularity in the Payment to Captain Thompson. To enable us to judge of what is proper to be done on the part of the Company it is necessary that you should have the case investigated by your Law Officers and fully stated for our information. They must see when and under what Orders the Deposits were made, who were the parties in the cause and what were the different claims or portions. When the cause was appealed home and by whom, and whether any Order has been transmitted to India to dismiss or do away the effect of that Appeal? Whether the sum mentioned above or any other Sum was paid to Captain Thompson, whether by any and what order of Court, and under what circumstances and what Sum remains now in deposit. If you shall find that there was any irregularity in the payment to Captain Thompson, and that the Indemnity given by him extends to persons or property in India you must seek a proper Remedy immediately to recover satisfaction to the Company under the Indemnity. but if it extends only to persons now in England then you will send us the Original Indemnity you keeping an attested Copy.

5. This business you will perceive is of very long standing Mr. Pigou is anxious to bring it to a Settlement, we wish to forward it, and desire that no time may be lost in collecting and sending the necessary Information to enable us to judge what is proper to be done.



in the present case no alternative appears for as the possessions of the Company no where afford a proper Climate recourse must be had to those of it's Neighbours.

Soho Square  
November 25, 1788

Jos. Banks

6

## LETTER DATED 22 APRIL 1789

*Suit by Officers of His Majesty's Navy against Company—Waller's case.*

OUR Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

A Suit having been instituted by the Officers of His Majesty's Navy, who claimed a Share of the Goods at Chinsura at the time of the Capture of that place by Captain Chatfield and Our Troops under his Command, you will receive by this conveyance a Commission for the examination of Witnesses in that Cause with full Direction for executing it, which of course you will put into the hands of your Law Officers to do what is necessary therein with Orders to forward the business and return it as soon as reasonably may be, and require their particular Attention to the Instructions both for the purpose of having the Evidence as clear as the circumstances of the Case will allow and that in point of form the whole proceedings may be regular.

2. You will observe that the Instructions prescribe a mode of examining Witnesses who are interested in the Capture this is to be considered only as provisional to be used in case the facts cannot be fully proved by disinterested Witnesses; those who shall be employed to procure the necessary Witnesses must be particularly careful to get such Evidence as may be free from any Objection of Interest which we hope may be given by the Officers of the Dutch Government and by the Inhabitants of the Place.

3. Many Applications have been made to us by Mr. Frederick Pigou as Executor of Mr. Samuel Waller deceased concerning some money deposited in the Company's Cash in a Cause in the late Mayor's Court of Waller against Verelst, in which there was first an Appeal to the late Governor and Council and afterwards to the King in Council. It is said that on 17th May 1774 a Deposit of Fourteen Thousand Rupees was made in the said Cause by Order of the Mayor's Court

question which was before agitated respecting the Appeal not being heard within five Years from the time of it's being granted in India, has been again brought on. The Lords of Appeal differed in opinion upon the Subject, but they resolved not to hear the Cause:

2. As the Appeal is dismissed entirely upon the ground of its not having been heard within five Years, and not upon the merits, we should hope the Company might be relieved from the Bond, more especially as a very considerable delay, much more than the time elapsed beyond five Years, arose from the Respondents themselves under a Letter wrote by their Solicitor, who it appears by his own affidavit afterwards laid by and availed himself of our Solicitor's not knowing that the Bond to prosecute the Appeal was limited as to time, but supposing it to be a general Bond according to the terms of the Act of Parliament.

3. As the Appeal therefore has not been decided upon the merits of the Case, but has been dismissed solely in consequence of the time being elapsed, which was limited for it's prosecution, you will advise with your Law Officers, whether it may be proper to fyle [sic] a Bill in Equity for an Injunction and to be relieved from the Bond as being contrary to and exceeding the Act of Parliament, and also upon the ground of the delay occasioned by the Respondents Solicitors, and his laying by to catch at a dismissal. We send you herewith a Copy of the Letter from the Respondents Solicitor requesting a postponement of the Cause, and his Affidavit stating his own conduct, and the Affidavit made by our own Solicitor of his knowing nothing of the Bond limiting the time.

4. These Proceedings may possibly induce the Begum to be moderate in her demand, and we think it may be adviseable to settle with her; it is highly improbable that she ever could have recovered anything from those whom she held in prison, and therefore by as much as she gets from the Company, her Situation will be mended.

5. We wish you however to try to accommodate the business in such way as you shall see proper. We think the Begum may be induced by a representation to her, and to avoid further delay, to make a deduction in her demand, and we recommend your endeavoring to compromise the business, as any accommodation whatever will be preferable to further litigation, and upon any Settlement with her, take an assignment of the Judgment for the use of the Company.

6. Having taken into our consideration the State of our several Presidencies abroad, and having lately determined that Writers and Cadets should be sent to Madras and Bombay. we have thought it

6. Having a very favourable Opinion of the Character and Abilities of Mr. Cuthbert Fenwick we have Appointed him to succeed the Post of Marine Store Keeper at your Presidency whenever the same shall be vacant by the Death resignation or coming away of Mr. Joseph Price.

7. We have appointed William Devaynes Esquire our Chairman Stephen Lushington Esquire our Deputy Chairman together with John Manship, Nathaniel Smith, John Smith, Joseph Sparkes, George Tatem and John Woodhouse Esquires to be the Committee of Secresy for giving the necessary directions respecting the safety of the Company's Shipping, the Orders therefore of any three of the said Committee respecting the same must be obeyed with the greatest punctuality.

8. Having appointed William Devaynes Esquire Chairman, Stephen Lushington Esquire Deputy Chairman and John Manship Esquire during the present Direction to be a Secret Committee agreeably to and for the purposes stated in the Acts of the 24th and 26th of His present Majesty, We hereby direct that all Orders and Instructions which you shall receive from our said Secret Committee be observed and obeyed with the same punctuality and exactness as though they had been signed by thirteen or more Members of the Court of Directors conformably to the said Acts.

We are,

Your Affectionate Friends,

W. Devaynes/Step. Lushington/J. Manship/  
W. Bensley/Paul Le Mesurier/John Hunter/  
Thos. Parry/George Tatem/J. Smith/  
A. Roberts/Jn. Woodhouse/Chas. Mills/  
Wm. Money/T. Pattle/Thos. T. Metcalfe/  
Jas. Moffatt/T. Baring/W. Elphinstone/  
John Travers/Nath. Smith/Joseph Sparkes.

London  
the 22nd April 1789.  
[Per Oxford]

## LETTER DATED 29 APRIL 1789

*Patna case—regulations regarding Company's servants.*

OUR Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. In our Letter of 20th August last, Para 61, we gave you directions about the Patna Cause of Naderah Begum against Bahadre Beg and others and expressed our hope that by the Ships of this Season we should send you the decree of the Lords of Appeal in the Cause. The

necessary to adopt the following regulations the better to carry into execution the Provisions of the Act of Parliament respecting the sending of persons to India, and to reduce our Presidencies to a regular and permanent Establishment.

"1st That the Writers now about to be appointed to Madras and Bombay shall continue to act as such, after the expiration of their Covenants for five Years until the respective Settlements to which they belong shall be reduced to the Establishment agreed upon by this Court.

2nd That all persons in the respective Stations of Factors, Junior Merchants and Senior Merchants shall in like manner continue to act as such, and receive the usual Salary and Emoluments arising from their different Situations, until the Numbers in the several Classes shall be reduced to the Establishment agreed upon by this Court.

3rd That all persons Civil or Military in the Company's Service who have been in England for the space of two Years from their arrival in England, be required forthwith to return to the Company's Service by the Ships of the ensuing Season, and in failure thereof to be considered as having resigned the Company's Service.

4th That in order to prevent the indulgence of the Court being abused in future, it is resolved that no person whatever in the Company's Service be permitted to remain in England any period of time, exceeding two Years from their arrival in England."

We are,

Your affectionate Friends,

W. Devaynes/Step. Lushington/Thos. T. Metcalfe/Thos. Parry/Hugh Inglis/Jas. Moffatt/D. Scott/W. Bensley/Jn. Woodhouse/Chas. Mills/John Travers/F. Baring/Nath. Smith/T. Pattle/J. Smith/Paul Le Mesurier/John Manship/Abram Roberts.

London  
the 29th April 1789

*Enclosure*

[Vide Paragraph 3]

Privy Council.

Behauder Beg and others—Appellants; and Nauderah Begum—Respondent.

Thomas White of the Middle Temple London Gentleman Solicitor for the above named Respondent maketh Oath and saith that from a letter which he this Deponent received purporting to be a Letter from

Mr. Smith's Compliments to Messrs. Wilmot and White—he did not receive their Note of 12th Instant till Yesterday. A Sketch of the Appellants Case is drawn but it is not yet settled Mr. Smith wants to look over it and correct it himself before he goes to Council, He is going out of Town this Evening or tomorrow Morning for about 10 days will take the Papers with him and do it in the Country and as soon as he returns get it compleated and signed ready for hearing before the Vacation.

Drapers Hall, 26th June 1786.

Mr. White presents Compliments to Mr. Smith and in answer to his note just received respecting the above cause acquaints Mr. Smith he thinks it impossible to bring the appeal to a hearing this Summer and therefore to prevent unnecessary trouble on either side has no objection if agreeable to Mr. Smith to let the cause rest as it is till after the Vacation Mr. Smith is desired to return an answer immediately to Mr. White saying whether or no he consents to the above proposal.

Temple, 26th June 1786.

Mr. Smith's Compliments to Messrs. Wilmot and White in answer to their Note inform them he has no objection to their proposal.

Drapers Hall, 26th June 1786.

Privy Council

Behauder Beg and others—Appellants

and

Nauderah Begum—Respondent.

John Smith of Drapers Hall London Gentleman maketh Oath that he received the Appeal papers in this Causo from the East India Company in Order to proceed in and prosecute this Appeal agreeable to the Directions and Intention of the Act of Parliament for that purpose and saith that he never received any Orders Instruction or Intimation not to prosecute the same but it was always the firm Intention of the Court of Directors of the said Company as this Deponent verily believes and it was also his this Deponents firm Intention to prosecute

Mr. Sill made some general answer that the business being more immediately under Mr. Smith's direction he could give no decisive answer to any enquiry respecting it but promised to inform Mr. Smith of the particulars of what he this Deponent had mentioned to him. And this Deponent further saith that after some considerable time had elapsed without this Deponent hearing from either Mr. Smith or Mr. Sill in consequence of what passed between this Deponent and Mr. Sill as before deposed a Question of doubt occured to this Deponent's Mind Viz. whether any further steps were actually necessary to be taken on the part of the Respondent to bring the appeal to a hearing so as necessarily thereby to entitle the Respondent to the benefit of the bond entered into to her by the East India Company in the event of the Appeal not being prosecuted within the time limited for that purpose and this Deponent saith that in consequence of such Doubt he applied to Alexander Luders Esqr. one of the Council concerned in this Appeal for his opinion thereon and who on the Twenty third day of May One Thousand Seven Hundred & Eighty Seven gave it as his opinion "that it was not necessary for the Respondent to take any active part in the cause before the Council in order to obtain the benefit of the bond in the event it provided for upon the event therein supposed" And this Deponent further saith that in consequence of the opinion so given as aforesaid by Mr. Luders He this Deponent from that time thought it his Duty as Solicitor for the Respondent not to proceed to an exparty hearing of the Appeal or otherwise to be urgent with Mr. Smith to bring the Appeal to a hearing and for that reason he this Deponent discontinued any further applications to Mr. Smith on the Subject. And this Deponent further saith that from that time until long after the twentieth of January One Thousand Seven Hundred and eighty eight He this Deponent did not receive any Notice from the Solicitor for the Appellants to proceed to the hearing of the Appeal.

Behauder Beg and others—Appellants

&

Nauderah Begum—Respondent

Messrs Wilmot and White present their Compliments to Messrs. Smith and Sill acquaint them they have prepared and printed the Case on the part of the Respondent and wish to know if Messrs. Smith and Sill are ready to make an Exchange of Cases Wilmot and White are directed to urge the appeal on to a hearing as early as possible, they therefore hope that Messrs. Smith and Sill will have it in their power to proceed with the Appeal in the course of this Month otherwise Wilmot and White will be obliged to proceed on it exparte.

Temple, 12th June 1786.

## LETTER DATED 30 APRIL 1789

*Nopal plants to be delivered to Kyd.*

EDWARD HAY Esqr., Secretary to the Right Hon'ble the Governor General & Council at Fort William in Bengal.

Sir,

The Court of Directors having been favoured by Sir Joseph Banks, with another of the true Nopal Plants without prickles, from His Majesty's Garden at Kew, it has been sent on board the *Earl of Oxford*, and the Commander has been particularly instructed as to the mode of treatment; it is hoped it will arrive in a complete state of preservation. Some others of the same Species will be sent by some future conveyance. It is the Court's wish that this Plant should be delivered to Colonel Kyd, that he may endeavour to encrease them as much as possible, and dispose of them, agreeable to the Court's former directions, which have already been transmitted for that purpose.

I am with respect,  
Sir,

Your most Obedient  
humble servant  
Thos. Morton  
Secretary.

East India House  
London, the 30th April. 1789.

## LETTER DATED 19 AUGUST 1789

*Appointment of Meadows and Abercrombie as Governors of Madras and Bombay respectively—Company's accounts and resolutions thereon—expenditure of surplus revenue.*

OUR Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. Our last Letters to you in this Department were dated the 8th 22nd and 29th April and transmitted by the Ships Houghton and Earl of Oxford.

the same accordingly. And this Deponent further saith that in the Month of June one thousand seven hundred and eighty six having communicated to Messrs. Wilmot and White the Respondents Solicitors his Intention of taking proceedings to get the Cause heard before the then ensuing long Vacation he this Deponent afterwards on the same day as he believes received the following written Note or Message from the said Mr. White Vizt:

“Behauder Beg

and

Naderah Begum

Mr. White presents Complts to Mr. Smith and in Answer to his Note just received respecting the above cause acquaints Mr. Smith he thinks it impossible to bring the Appeal to a hearing this Summer and therefore to prevent unnecessary trouble on either Side has no objection if agreeable to Mr. Smith to let the cause rest as it is, till after the vacation. Mr. Smith is desired to return an Answer immediately to Mr. White saying whether or no he consents to the above proposal.

Temple, 26th June 1786.

And this Deponent further saith that he consented to the proposal of the said Messrs. Wilmot and White and stayed proceeding to hear the said Cause accordingly And this Deponent further saith that at the time of his Assenting to the said proposal or at any time afterwards until the term of five Years from the Time of allowing the said Appeal was expired he this Deponent did not know of any Bond or Engagement having been entered into by or on behalf of the East India Company for bringing the said Appeal to hearing within the Term of five Years or any other limited Time and if he this Deponent had known of any such Bond and engagement he would not have suffered or allowed any delay therein but would have taken proceedings at all Events to bring the Cause to hearing before the Expiration of such limited Time.

(Signed)

John Smith.

Sworn this twentyfourth  
day of March 1789 at  
my Chambers in Lin-  
colns Inn before me

John Ord.



2. We have since received the following Advices from your Presidency; viz.

Per Triton General Letter dated 22d December 1788.

Per Kent. { General Letter dated 9th January 1789.  
General Letter in the Secret and Separate Department dated 9th January 1789.  
General Letter dated 14th January 1789.  
Letter from the Right Honorable the Governor General dated 6th January 1789.

Per North-umberland. { General Letter dated 10th March 1789.  
Separate General Letter dated the same day.  
Separate General Letter dated 12th March 1789.  
Duplicate Letter from the Right Hon'ble the Governor General dated 18th February 1789.  
Letters from the right Hon'ble the Governor General dated 6th and 7th March 1789.

and we shall reply thereto by the Ships of this Season.

3. We have appointed Major General William Medows to be Governor and Commander in Chief of Fort St. George in the room of Sir Archibald Campbell.

4. And we have appointed Colonel Robert Abercrombie to be Governor and Commander in Chief of Bombay in the room of Major General Medows.

5. We have been informed that William Cookson the Son of a respectable Clergyman in Lincolnshire who was a student at Cambridge abruptly left College and entered himself as a Private Recruit in the Company's Service and embarked on the Earl of Chesterfield for Bengal, We have likewise received a very favourable report of his Character and in consequence thereof have at the particular Solicitations of his Family been induced to consent that he should be discharged from his present Situation and allowed to accept the Nomination of a Cadet on the Bombay Establishment presented him by a Member of this Court. This Indulgence however is to be extended to him under the express condition that he shall appear upon your causing an examination to be made into his Conduct to be deserving of such Promotion. In the event of this being the Case you will deliver him the accompanying Certificate of his appointment and Order him to proceed to his duty at Bombay

accordingly, but if you should be of a different Opinion, he is then to be continued in the Ranks at your Presidency for the remainder of his contracted time and the Certificate returned to us.

6. We send by this Conveyance Copies of the several Accounts which were laid before Parliament in the last Sessions and the resolutions founded on them, since which we have received your Separate Letter of 12th March 1789 in reply to our Observations on the state of the Indian Finances, together with the several Accounts and Documents which accompanied it.

7. You will perceive by the Accounts Nos. 1 and 2 that we were under the necessity of stating them imperfectly for want of the Estimate of resources and Disbursements of your Government for 1788/9 since received we have attended to the reasons assigned for the delay in forwarding this and the other Accounts in the 39th Paragraph of your Letter abovementioned, and the Accountant General's Letters of 9th November and 5th March last, and we regret with you the causes which have occasioned it, but as it is highly material that we should be furnished with this Annual Statement by the earliest conveyance in order to complete the Accounts called for by Parliament which require that the estimated Amount of all Revenues and Charges should be stated in one Sessions(*sic*), and the comparative realization of such Estimate in the following we rely on your exertions to prevent our experiencing a similar disappointment in future.

8. We shall defer our remarks on these statements, and the several Estimates for 1788/9 to a future opportunity, in the mean time expressing our great satisfaction at the attention you have shown to the important business of our Indian Finances, and at the pleasing prospect exhibited in the 57th Paragraph of your separate Letter, of a surplus Revenue of upwards of a Crore and sixty two Lacks of Current Rupees (including the amount of Sales of Imports and Certificates) to be applied towards the purchase of Investments, the discharge of our Debts and furnishing supplies to China, We are the more sanguine in our expectations that this surplus will be realized from observing that you have made every allowance for Contingencies and for future defalcation in the large amount of the estimated Salt Revenue for 1788/9.

We are,

Your Affectionate Friends,

W. Devaynes/Step. Lushington/Jas. Moffatt/  
Thos. J. Metcalfe/Abra'm Roberts/T.  
Pattle/John Travers/Joseph Sparkes/John  
Hunter/Thos. Parry/W. Bensely/D. Scott/  
Chas. Mills/George Tantom/F. Baring/J.  
Smith.

London  
the 19th August 1789.  
[Per *Vestal*]

## LETTER DATED 2 DECEMBER 1789

*Company's Commissions to Medows and Abercrombie—new rules regarding appointment of captains and mates of Company's ships—desertions from Company's ships—preventive steps to be taken.*

OUR Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. Our last Letter to you in this Department was dated 19th August 1789 and transmitted by His Majesty's Ship Vestal, Duplicate of which was sent Overland via Bombay by Lieutenant John Taylor.

2. Herewith you will receive Copy of a Commission constituting and appointing Major General William Medows Governor and Commander in Chief, and John Hollond, James Henry Cassamajor, and Morgan Williams Esqrs. of Council at Fort St. George, also Copy of a Commission constituting and appointing Colonel Robert Abercrombie Governor and Commander in Chief, and David Carnegie, George Green, and George Dick Esqrs, the Council of Bombay.

3 On the 15th July last we came to the following Resolutions: Vizt.

That the present Regulations respecting the qualifications of Mates for ships in the Company's service be repealed and the following substituted in their stead: Vizt.

That any Person having performed a complete Voyage to and from India or China in the Company's Service in either of the Stations of Chief, Second, Third or Fourth Mate shall be considered as again eligible to the highest Station which he has been before sworn into by the Court of Directors and allowed to be presented accordingly without Regard to his Age at the time of his being so presented.

That no Person except those beforementioned be presented for the station of Chief Mate who shall not have attained the full age of Twenty three years, and performed one Voyage to and from India or China in the Company's Service in the Station of Second, or Third Mate; nor

For Second Mate who shall not have attained the full age of twenty two Years and performed three voyages to and from Indian or China in the Company's Service one of which shall have been in the Station of Third mate or shall have performed three Voyages in the Company's Service, one of which in the Station of Fourth mate

or two Voyages in this Service one as Fourth Mate and three years in actual Service in any other Employ of which last he shall produce satisfactory Certificates to the Committee of Shipping.

Nor for third Mate who shall not have attained the full age of twenty one years, and performed two voyages to and from India or China in the Company's Service; nor

For fourth mate who shall not have attained the full Age of twenty years, and performed two Voyages to and from India or China in the Company's Service or one Voyage in the Company's Service and two years in actual Service in any other Employ of which last he shall produce satisfactory Certificate to the Committee of Shipping.

That every Person except those proceeding in the same Stations in which they have been before sworn do produce previous to his Examination a Certificate from the Parish Register or other Satisfactory Proof of his Age.

That such Gentlemen as may be presented for Commanders and who under any Exception in these or former Regulations shall not have given in Certificates of their Age when examined for Officers be required to produce when presented as Commanders, satisfactory Documents, of their not being less than Twenty five years which is the Age prescribed by order of Court of the 12th February 1768.

That the present order of Court of the 12th February 1768 respecting the qualifications of Gentlemen intended for the Command of Ships in the Company's service and the Regulations now adopted respecting the qualifications for the Stations of Chief, Second, Third and Fourth Mates be extended to the Commanders and Mates of the Company's Packets with an exception in favour of Commanders already appointed in that Line of Service who shall have acted as such two Voyages to and from India or China which Time shall be considered as equivalent to one Voyage to and from India or China & the Station of Chief or Second Mate.

4. The above Regulations are communicated to you for particular Information and guidance if at any Time it should be expedient to appoint Officers to the Ships in the Company's Service during their stay at your Presidency.

5. The frequency of desertions of Persons in different Ships from the freighted Ships in our Service makes it necessary that effectual means should be adopted to prevent the like in future the consequences are not only productive of the many Inconven-

which must result from the Ships Companies being greatly weakened but the Persons so leaving their Ships remain in India and procure appointments sometimes in preference but always to the prejudice of those who proceed thither with our Permission. Many of the Assistant Surgeons who have been appointed in India under the Resolutions of your Board were probably of that description and a still greater number We suppose are among those Persons who are engaged in the Sea Service of Private Merchants at our Several Presidencies. From an inspection into the Lists of the several Ships which have arrived in the Course of last Season we are inclined to believe the Evil rather encreases and as we find it necessary that such Proceedings should be effectually Discouraged, We herewith transmit a List of the Officers and Petty Officers of the Ships arrived last Season who have remained behind, and We shall depend upon your Exertions in causing such Persons to be sent to England by the first Conveyance which may offer.

We are,

Your Affectionate Friends,

London  
2nd December 1789.  
[Conveyed to Madras  
per *Minerva*. Received  
from Madras per  
*Nancy*.]

W. Devaynes/J. Manship/John Hunter/  
W. Bensley/Thos. Parry/Chas. Mills/Thos.  
Fitzhugh/Thos. T. Metcalfe/John Travers/  
Abr'am. Roberts/Wm. Money/Paul Le  
Mesurier/T. Pattle/George Tatem/J. Smith/  
W. Elphinstone.

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LETTER DATED 19 MARCH 1790

*Certain employees of Company and twenty-six free mariners permitted to proceed to India—appointments of writers—new rules for Company's servants of lower categories—Archibald Kier's petition for financial assistance.*

OUR Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. Our last letters to you in this Department were dated the 2nd and 4th\* December 1789 and transmitted by the *Minerva*, and Fort St. George.

We have since received by the *Swallow* the following advices from your Presidency; vizt.

*Letter in the Public Department dated the 10th August 1789.*

\*The letter dated 4 December 1789 belongs to the Commercial Department vide Copies of Records obtained from the India Office, Vol. 48, pp. 534-35.

Letters from the Right Honble. the Governor General dated the 1st, 2nd, and 8th August 1789.

Letter from Mr. Secretary Hay addressed to our Secretary dated the 10th August 1789.

3. We have resolved to grant permission to any Persons to send Dollars to Bengal, Fort St. George or Bombay on the Company's Ships of this Season freight free; provided that such Dollars be applied bona-fide to the purchase of Company's Bonds, to be subscribed on the terms at present offered by the Company.

4. We have permitted Messrs. James Irwin, David Burges, Henry Ramus and Joseph Fowke to return to their rank in our Civil Service at your Presidency. Mr. Burges has our leave to proceed Overland.

5. We have permitted Mr. Peter Elton to proceed to Bengal to practise as an Attorney in the Supreme Court of Judicature.

6. We have permitted the Revd. Dr. John Christian Diemer to proceed to Bengal and remain there three Years for the purpose of settling his Affairs.

7. We have permitted Captain William Hardcastle late Commander of the Hillsborough, to proceed to Bengal to settle his affairs there, on condition of his returning to England by the Ship whereon he takes passage, or on some other Ship that may be dispatched from Bengal in the same Season—he proceeds on the [.....] by which conveyance we transmit the Obligation he has entered into for that purpose.

8. Having received a favorable Character of Mr. John McDonald as a School Master, we have permitted him to proceed to Bengal for the purpose *only* of instructing Youth in the several branches of Education; but should he attempt to pursue any other employ, he must be sent to England.

9. Mr. Richard Bright has obtained our leave to proceed to India under Free Mariners Indentures in further part of the number we agreed to license last Season.

10. We have resolved to permit Twenty six Free Mariners to proceed to India this Season, and have granted the following Persons our License for that purpose; vizt. William Shepherd, George Laughton, Alexander Chalmer, Benjamin Collier, Donald Campbell, James Rosinell, Thomas Richard Fairchild, Josiah Wise Wharton, Stephen Lamb, John Brooker, John Hall, John Callander, William Crawley, Willm. Fras. Beaumont, George Munro, John Jackman, Charles Walker, John Cramlington.

11. We have resolved to appoint Thirty Two 32 Writers for your Presidency this Season, who are upon their arrival to be selected for the different Offices at your Presidency, agreeably to the Directions in our Letter of the 21st September 1785 that they may acquire some knowledge in the Company's Affairs before they be sent as Assistants to the Subordinate Settlements, and that they may be hereafter qualified for more important situations. We have been informed that it has been too much a Custom of late years for the duties appertaining to the lower Class of the Civil Service, to be almost entirely performed by Native Writers, or by Persons not in the Company's Service, by which means our Covenanted Writers are prevented from acquiring that regular progressive knowledge of our Affairs in general as would qualify them to discharge the Duties of higher Stations either with Credit to themselves or advantage to the Company. We therefore direct that some Regulation be established for remedying this in future, and that no Person shall be deemed eligible to the appointment of Assistant at the Subordinates, or to any other situation, until he shall have served a given time in one of the proper Offices at the Presidency. And that this may not be a nominal employment, every writer shall at the expiration of the period that may be fixed, produce a Certificate from the Superior in the Department in which he may have served to the following purport.

I do hereby Certify that A:B: has been employed in the Office of ....under the Presidency of Fort William for the space of Years--that he has given regular attendance, and that he has performed the duty allotted to him as a Writer with diligence.

12. We further direct that all the Letters, Books, Papers and Accounts transmitted to Europe be signed by the Person who wrote them, and by the Person who examined them: Those kept in your different Offices must be regularly signed in the same manner at the conclusion of each days business. By this means a proper judgement may be formed, both in England and in India, of the diligence of the Writers employed in the several Departments.

13. We have permitted Mr. James Miller to return to his Rank in Our Service on the Bengal Establishment; and as it appears from your Records that during the time he held the Office of Sub-Accountant he received repeated testimonies of your approbation, We direct that in the distributions to Offices after his arrival, he be employed in such Station as may be most suitable to his Abilities and Rank in our Service.

14. We have received a Petition from Mr. Archibald Kier, stating that he has a House at Calcutta, now let upon a ten Years' Lease and that he is desirous of selling the Premises to the Company. A Copy

of Mr. Kier's Petition is enclosed, and in case you shall be of opinion that it will be for the Company's Interest, and not otherwise, we leave it to you to buy it at such a Sum as you may deem equal to it's value.

Signed by

W. Devaynes/J. Manship/Thos. T. Metcalfe/John Hunter/W. Bensley/F. Baring/A. Roberts/Chas. Mills/J. Smith/W. Elphinstone/Wm. Money/Stepn. Williams/Thos. Parry/John Travers/Hugh Inglis/George Tatem.

London  
the 19th March 1790.

*Enclosure*

(*Vide* paragraph 14)

To the Honourable the Directors of the East India Company.

The humble Petition of Archibald Keir Sheweth

That your petitioner has already addressed your Hon'ble Board, setting forth various losses and hardships he had sustained, as well as services he had performed to the Hon'ble Company, and humbly soliciting some compensation for the same.

That no relief has hitherto been granted him upon the said prayer: and therefore considering his time of life, the state of his affairs, and the circumstance of his having a wife and Children as yet unprovided for it becomes matter of serious moment, and much anxiety to him, to realize the property he has, so as to enable him to make such Settlements and arrangements with his Creditors, and in his family as his several exigencies may require.

That he has a House at Calcutta built by him at a very considerable expense in 1767, since greatly enlarged, altered and completed in 1782. to fit and render it commodious for a Court-house with the offices thereunto belonging: which alterations and additions, that cost him about a Lack of Rupees, were made at the request of the Judges of the Supreme Court, by Order of the Governor General and Council, upon a ten Years Lease.

That for the reasons above mentioned, and as a thing advantageous to the Honble Company, your Petitioner is desirous to sell you the Premises at the reasonable price of ten Years purchase.

Your Petitioner therefore humbly prays, that you will take this matter into your consideration and that you will be graciously pleased



to send the necessary order thereupon to your Servants in Bengal for which favour as in duty bound, he shall ever be grateful.

Red Lion Square  
9th June 1789.

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## LETTER DATED 28 APRIL 1790

*Appointments of writers—Col. Call's map of India—purchase of stationery—assistance to Madras—remittance to Canton—Digest of Hindu and Muhammadan Laws—remittance to Bombay—measures to prevent exorbitant Batta demanded by Shroffs etc. on exchange of silver for gold—dak communication between Calcutta and Madras—Bombay bonds—agreement with Royal Philippine Spanish Company—Nawah Nazim's account—employment of Company's officers in banks and agency houses—Bengalis sold as slaves—Hastings and Botanical Garden*

OUR Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. Our last Letter to you in this Department was dated the 19th March.
2. We have appointed the following Writers for your Presidency as part of the number agreed to be sent this Season—their rank will be settled by a future opportunity; vizt. Messrs. Thomas Baring, John Thornhill, John Ahmuty, John Webb, Arthur Hastings Vansittart, Hugh Mcleod, Julius Inhoff (abroad), Alexander Duncan, Duncan Campbell, Thomas Hays, Colin Shakespear (Abroad), Jas. Primrose Johnstone, Daniel Robinson Lecker (Abroad).
3. We have permitted Mr. John Richardson to proceed to Bengal to practise as a Barrister in the Supreme Court of judicature.
4. We have permitted the following persons to proceed to India under Free Mariners Indentures, vizt. William Beare, Andrew Meir, William Risdon, John Bulfill Carre, Adam Gibson, John Plumridge, John Denis, John Pittman.
5. Having been put to great inconvenience on account of not having received the twelfth Sheet of the late Lieutt Colonel Call's Map of India, we direct that it be forwarded to us by the first conveyance.
6. We shall transmit by the latter Ship of the Season, a List of all such Civil Servants as have had permission to return to our Service

on your Establishment and have not availed themselves thereof or have resigned the same; as for want of such Information an inconvenience similar to that you complain of in the Military may happen in this Department.

7. In consideration of the long Services of Mr. Robert Gregory, Junior, we thought proper, in the 61st Para. of our Letter of the 12th July 1782, to appoint him an Assistant to the Revenue Council at Patna, and to succeed to that Chiefship on the first vacancy. But our intentions in Mr. Gregory's favour were rendered ineffectual on account of the Provincial Council being abolished. As we find that Mr. Gregory is still out of Employ, tho' many of his Juniors are in the possession of Offices of trust and emolument, we hereby repeat our recommendation in his behalf, and direct that he be nominated to the first vacant Station, which, by his standing and abilities he may be qualified to occupy.

Answer to the Letter in the Public Department  
dated the 6th November 1788

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| (Par. 1). Relative to the Dispatch of the Wm. Pitt. (2 @ 5) Guntoor Circar. Nabob of Arcot's Creditors. Commercial Treaty with the Vizier. | 8. Needs no reply.<br><br>9. These Paras. Will be replied to in the Political Department.  |
| (6 @ 108). Military.   | 10. These Paras. will be replied to in the Military Department.  |
| (109 @ 116). Answer to Court's Letters of 1787 and 1788.   | 11. Need no reply.   |
| (117). Salary to the Organist of the Church at Calcutta, Rupees 150 Per Month.   | 12. We approve of the Salary to the Organist to the New Church at Calcutta.  |
| (118 @ 120). Continuation of the Answer to the Court's Letters.  | 13. Need no reply.   |
| (121 @ 123). Relative to Sir John Macpherson's Salary.   | 14. The Resolutions of the Court of Directors relative to Sir John Macpherson, communicated to you in the 8th Para of our Public Letter of 8th April 1789, have rendered any reply to these paras. unnecessary |

- (124). Continuation of the Answer to the Court's Letters. 15. Needs no reply.
- (125 @ 130). Mr. Lacam and New Harbour. 16. We shall defer giving an Opinion upon your Proceedings in consequence of our Orders relative to New Harbour as advised in this, and your subsequent dispatches of the 10th March and 10th August 1789, until after the receipt of the Report of the Committee appointed to enquire into Mr Lacam's Claim for an Indemnification from the Company.
- (131 @ 136). Continuation of the Answer to Court's Letters. 17. Need no reply.
- (137). As to the Annual Dispatch of a Packet. 18. Before we give a final Opinion on the expediency of an Annual Disptach of a packet in the Month of August both from Europe and from Bengal as recommended by the Governor General, we shall obtain the Opinion of Council on the point suggested in the 35th Para of his Lordship's Letter of the 3rd November 1788—and whether the proposition in the 36th Par. of allowing Private Merchants to furnish Vessels on the Condition of their being permitted to lade a Cargo of Raw Cotton, should be acceded to.
- (138). Continuation of the answer to the Court's Letters. 19. Needs no reply.
- (139). Measures adopted for preventing unlicensed Persons remaining in India. 20. We approve of the Proceedings referred to in this Paragraph for the purpose of ascertaining

what British Subjects proceed to India without the company's Licence.

(140 @145). Continuation of the answer to the Court's Letters.

(146). Contract for Stationary. Approved in Committee of Accounts the 10th March 1790.

21. Need no reply.

22. From the remarks in these Paragraphs, we have been led to inspect your various Proceedings in consequence of the Orders in our Letter of the 27th March 1787, relative to the Expenditure of Stationary at your Presidency.<sup>1</sup>

23. Upon your Receipt of the said Letter we find, that such of our Orders and Observations as applied to the expenditure in the Commercial Department were duly communicated to the Board of Trade, and we presume that agreeably to your directions the late Agent for Stationary was furnished with a Copy of such further part of our Observations as related to the purchases made of that Article for the use of the several other Departments.

24. We have already intimated in our Letter of the 18th February 1789, to have noticed the investigation of the Purchases in the Commercial Department, but declined making any comment at that time on the result expecting that we should soon have received through the Channel of your Correspondence with us, some detail of your Proceedings, as well in respect of the purchases made by the

Agent for Stationary, as of those made in the Commercial Department

- 25 Having been disappointed in this expectation and not finding upon your Consultations the least notice to have been taken by the Agent for Stationary of the observations which applied to his purchases, or any enquiry to have been made into the said Purchases we must infer that proper and satisfactory Vouchers were at all times regularly delivered in by the Agent for the purchases made by him, and that of course all explanation on his part and all enquiry on yours relative thereto, became unnecessary
- 26 It has been with much pleasure we have remarked from the Proceedings of our present Board of Trade, that the expediency of effecting some reform in the exp nditure of Stationary in the Commercial Department had attracted their attention prior to the arrival of our orders on this Subject
- 27 With great satisfaction have we also observed the pains which in consequence of our Orders were taken by them in investigating the purchases made of this Article under the former Board in the years 1784 85 and 1786
- 28 That there existed some degree of Abuse in these Purchases we could not but suspect from the largeness of the quantities and the exorbitance of the Prices,

yet were we far from entertaining any idea of so great an abuse as appears to have been practiced.

29. Such an unwarrantable abuse as that we allude to, deserved we think to have been marked in a more public and exemplary manner, but finding that you have been disposed to overlook it from an assurance that nothing of the kind will be practised under our present Board of Trade (of which we are equally well persuaded) we shall not therefore at this distance of time say any more on the subject.

30. In regard to the Contract you have entered into for procuring a Supply of such Articles of Stationary as may be required for the use of your several Departments in excess of our Consignments, a considerable saving will no doubt arise from it ; agreeable to the Statement transmitted to us by the Kent. It is nevertheless to be observed that by supplying you from hence ; with the additional quantities which in that statement it is assumed might be necessary to purchase in India upwards of £ 2000. Per Annum may be further saved ; and as from a comparison between the actual cost of the Stationary purchased at our Presidency in the last three years preceding our Orders, and the valuation thereof at the Prices charged here, there appears a difference of at least

£8000 Per Annum, we certainly shall not fail of guarding in future against subjecting you to the necessity of making any purchase of this Article in India and with this view we shall Ship for your Presidency in the present Season a Supply exceeding in amount the very large Indent we have received from you, by about £500

- 31 Another objection that we have to the continuance of the said Contract, is the Agreement made with the Contractor that he shall have the Charge, and be the issuer of the Stationary consigned to you by us, which we cannot but consider in every respect improper
- 32 Agreeably to the intention of our Order of the 27th March 1787, we therefore direct that the Stationary received from hence, be put in charge of some Confidential Servant under the Accountant or other principal Officer, and in consideration of the trouble which may be attendant on this Charge we recommend that a reasonable compensation for the same be made him annually
- 33 Upon inspection of the latest Accounts we have of your Purchases of Stationary, we perceive that notwithstanding the notice taken in our Letter of the 27th March 1787, which had been made of *Europe* Sealing Wax considerable quantities of this Article have since been purchased, as also of *Shining* Sand—for which reason we have

ordered a small quantity of each for the use of our Governor General and Council, but the Bengal Wax and Sand being procurable at much lower prices, and equally as good, or even better, for general use, we prohibit the purchasing of any other at your Presidency in future for account of the Company—and we likewise prohibit the issuing of any Article of Stationary from the Company's Stores which may be known, or reasonably be presumed, to be demanded for private use, as from the very great increase we have observed in the Issues of many of the Articles and of some in particular ; we cannot but conclude that they must in great part have been so appropriated.

34. Owing to the long and severe Frost in this Country in the Season 1788/9 only one half of the Port fire Paper which we ordered to be Shipped for your Presidency could be procured in time. The other half having since been manufactured will be sent you by the Ships of the present Season, and we purpose also sending you a further Supply of Paper for Bills of Exchange, apprehending that you must have nearly exhausted the Quantity sent you by the Ships of 1784/5.

(147 @ 152). Continuation of the Answer to the Court's Letters.

- (153 @ 159). Mooring Chains and Banksauls at Diamond Point.
35. Need no reply.
36. Our Orders of the 8th April 1789, relative to the Sum to be paid by the Owners for the use



of the Mooring Chains in the Bengal River, render any reply to these Paragraphs unnecessary

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|--|---|
| <p>(160) Acknowledging the receipt of Letters from the Secretary of the 8th Feby and 9th and 31st March</p> <p>(161) Enclose Duplicates of former Advices</p> <p>(162 @ 167) Mention the Arrival of Ships, and the Order of their Dispatch</p> | <p>} 37 Need no reply</p>   |
| <p>(168, 169) A Remission of the Import Duties to the Commanders and Officers of the Company's Ships</p>   | <p>38 In reply to these Paragraphs we have to acquaint you that on the 3rd of February last we came to a Resolution to remit the Import Duties, on the Investment of the Commanders and Officers of the Company's Ships which arrived from India last year an Indulgence which we would not have you grant under any circumstances without our express permission and We approve of your Resolution not to extend the same indulgence to Foreigners</p> |
| <p>(170, @ 172) Fort St George authorized to draw on Bengal for 5 Lakhs of Rupees for the purpose of an Investment</p>   | <p>39 In the assistance afforded our Presidency of Madras for the purpose of enabling them to provide an European Investment, you anticipated, in some measure, our Orders of the 25th Sept 1788, and we very much commend the attention you paid to the representations from Fort St George upon this subject</p>  |
| <p>(173, 174). Employment of the Lord Camden</p>   | <p>40 We approve of the measure reported in these Paras relative to the Ships Lord Camden and Minerva</p>   |

- (175, 176). Ragojee Angria a Mahratta Pirate, 41. These Paragraphs will be replied to in the Political Department.
- (177). Supplies to St. Helena. 42. Needs no reply.
- (178 @ 182). Fort Marlbro. 43. These Paragraphs will be replied to in a separate Letter.
- (183 @ 250). Commercial Affairs. 44. These Paras. will be replied to in the Commercial Department.
- (251, 252). Benares Trade and Customs. 45. These Paras. will be replied to in the *Revenue Department*.
- (253 @ 255). Remittances to China. 46. We have perused Lord Cornwallis's Minute of the 17th November 1788, upon the Subject of a Remittance of 12 Lacks of Rupees to Canton for the Season of 1789/90. The reasons urged by His Lordship in recommendation of the mode which was adopted for effecting those Remittances are very satisfactory, and the previous measure of referring the Proposals that were made to you in consequence of your Advertisement, perfectly fair and *Can. did.* Altho' in our Letter of the 8th April 1789, we expressed approbation of your Engagements with the House of Messrs. Price and Co. Lord Cornwallis has nevertheless in his Minute of the 30th January 1789, (referred to in your subsequent Dispatch of the 19th March) given very ample reasons why you ought to decline any further remittances in that mode; and Messrs. Price and Co. were

certainly entitled to the indulgence shewn them by an advance of a Lack of Rupees in consequence of the inconvenience to which they were subjected by this determination

47 Agreeably to your request in the 93rd Para in your last mentioned Advices, you may always depend upon the amount of our Annual Consignments to China in order to assist your deliberations, whenever the subject of Remittances to our Supra Cargoes shall come under your consideration

48 In addition to the before mentioned Remittance of 12 Lack of Rupees to the Supra Cargoes, your last Dispatch of the 10th August 1789 has acquainted us with your having authorized them to draw upon you to the amount of 10 Lacks more This further instance of your attention to this important branch of the Company's Commerce is highly commendable

236 @ 238) Mr Bruere

49 We are extremely concerned that the loss the Company is likely to sustain by their Engagements with Mr Bruere for furnishing Remittances to China will be to the amount of Rupees 1 25 831 8 8 Your subsequent advices of the 10th of August last give us very little reason to expect that this loss will be much diminished we shall however wait for the information required from Mr Bruere's Trustees before we come to a final decision on the Subject

- (259 @ 260). The Accountant General's observations on completing and transmitting the General Books.
50. It is with much satisfaction we observe that the orders You issued in consequence of the Accountant General's Remarks in his Letters here alluded to and Mr. Larkins's exertions have produced the good Effect of our being furnished with the General Books of Your Presidency for the Years 1787-8 and 1788-9 at so early a period after their close.
- (261). Transmitting Draughts of the Bills of Exchange to be drawn on the Court for the Indian Debt.
51. Needs no reply.
- (262). Allowance of Interest upon a lost Bond.
52. We have read the Papers referred to in this Para. relative to the Bond granted to Mr. Fergusson in liquidation of a Bond represented to have been lost, and approve of your Resolution herein as an Act of liberal Justice.
- (263 @ 265). Relating to some former Orders of the Court of Directors.
- (266 @ 268). State of the Subscription to the Bond Debt.
53. Need no reply.
- Para. 269 and 270. Noticing the Establishment of a Civil Auditor and business allotted to him.
54. The Subject of the appointment of the Office of Civil Auditor as a Separate Establishment will come under discussion in our reply to Your Secret and Separate Letter of 9 Jany. 1789 We see no objection to the Duties allotted to the Office as mentioned in this Paragraph.
- Para. 271 and 272. Reports from the Committee for investigating outstanding Balances not Military.
55. The Reports of the Committee for investigating outstanding Balances not Military shew that they have exerted themselves

with great diligence in the execution of the Duties delegated to them and they therefore deserye our approbation—the steps You pursued in consequence of their Reports appear to us to have been the best that under all the circumstances stated You could have adopted

Para 273 Referring a Claim on 56 We shall call on Mr Goodwin  
Mr Henry Goodwin amounting to G.Rs. 4374 13 6, for this Balance.  
to be demanded from him  
in England

(274) Marine Buildings 57 The grounds upon which you were induced to incur an Expence of Rupees 10,000 in the purchase of Premises contiguous to your Marine yard and to authorize the expenditure of 4000 more to complete some Buildings which had been commenced upon them, appear satisfactory

(275) As to the Court's former 58 Needs no reply  
Orders respecting the  
Marine Department

(276, 277) Pilot Vessels built at 59 We are advised in your subsequent Dispatch of the 22nd Decr 1788, of the arrival of the 6th and last Schooner built at Bombay for your Pilot Service We are extremely sorry that you should have occasion to complain of the extravagant Charges for these Vessels and of the indifferent manner in which they were fitted out We shall take occasion to observe upon this in our Letter to Bombay, from whence the Accounts have been transmitted

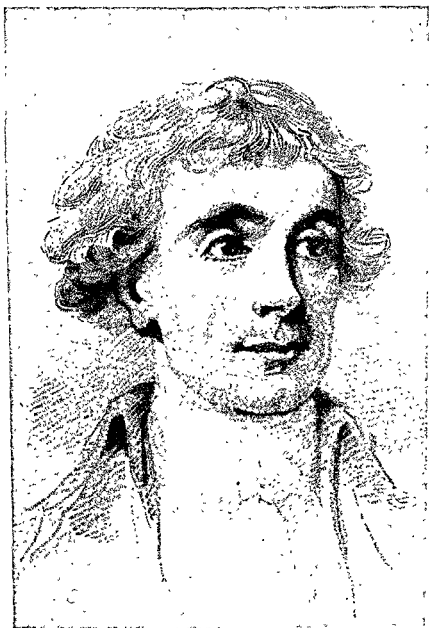
- (278). Transmitting the Master Attendants Report of the Soundings in the Benigal River. 60. Needs no reply.
- (279, 280). Recommendation in favour of Mr Andrew Wood. 61. Your recommendation in favour of Mr. Andrew Wood, late Chief Officer of the Admiral Hughes will be properly attended to.
- (281). Appointments held by Junior Servants. 62. We have perused Lord Cornwallis's Minute of the 3rd October 1788, relative to Appointments held by Junior Servants, and approve of your Resolution in consequence. The scrupulous attention paid by his Lordship and the Board to the Provisions of an Act of Parliament merits the highest Commendation.
- (282). Concerning Mr Plowden's return to England. 63. Needs no reply.
- (283 @ 299). Law Proceedings against several of the Company's Commercial Servants. 64. These Paragraphs are under the consideration of the Company's Law Officers.
- (300 @ 303). Salary to the Register of Natives subject to the Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court. 65. We approve of the Salary of Rupees 300 Per Month to the Register of Natives subject to the Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court, and of the Advertizements that were issued for the purpose of giving efficacy to the Intentions of the Legislature in this respect.
- (304). Referring to proceedings relative to the Establishment which will be transmitted hereafter. 66. Needs no reply.
- (305, 306). Translation of Hindoo and Mahomedan Laws. 67. We have great pleasure in confirming your Resolution on a

proposition submitted to you by Sir William Jones to employ some of the most learned of the Native Lawyers in the Compilation of a complete digest of Hindoo and Mohamedan Laws Our Opinion of the utility of the Work is greatly strengthened from the consideration that it is to be executed under Sir William's immediate inspection and we are as sensible as you can be of the degree of public spirit and general benevolence which he has manifested in undertaking to make an accurate and verbal Translation of it into English

- (307 308) Appointment of Six Sworn Arbitrators in the Court of Requests at 30 Rs per Month while employed 68 The reasons given for the temporary appointment of Six Sworn Arbitrators in the Court of Requests are satisfactory and we approve of your having discontinued them when they were deemed no longer necessary
- (309 @ 313) Transmitting Addreses in favour of Mr Hastings 69 Need no reply
- 70 The remainder of this Letter will be replied to in the Revenue Department

Answer to the Letter in the Public Department  
dated 22nd Decemter 1788

- (Para 1) Enclosing Duplicate of former Advices 71 Needs no reply
- (2 @ 20) Military 72 These Paras. will be replied to in the Military Department



Sir William Jones.



- (21). Mentions the sailing of the William Pitt.
- (22). Forwarding Consultations.
- (23). Mentions the arrival of the Dublin.
- (24). Advising that the Commander of the Triton has paid £ 1,500 into the Treasury at Bencoolen for Certificates.
- (25). Mentions that the Surgeon of the Triton could not proceed with the Ship on account of ill health.
- (26). Advising a Remittance to Fort St. George of Rups. 1,15,009 in Gold Bullion.

73. Need no reply,

(27). Remittance to Bombay.

74. Your several advices received in the Course of the past Season have acquainted us with the difficulties you experienced in effecting your Remittance to Bombay on any reasonable terms. We have read the Correspondence upon that subject (referred to in your last dispatch of the 10th August 1789) between the Government of Bombay & ca. and approve of the agreement that has been entered into at that Settlement with the Agent of Monardas Dewar-kadoss, the Bengal Shroffs for a Supply of two Lacks and an half Monthly for Bills on Benares at 93 Bombay for 100 Siccas. We hope however that your endeavors to excite a Competition among the Shroffs will prove successful, and that in consequence your Remittances to the Western side of India

will be effected by degrees on the same favorable terms as formerly.

(28 @ 30). Remittances to 75. Already replied to.  
China.

(31, 32). Fort Marlbro' 76. These Paragraphs will be replied to in a Separate Letter.

(33 @ 41). Commercial Affairs. 77. These Paragraphs will be replied to in the Commercial Department.

(42). Mentions the arrival of all the Schooners at Bengal built at Bombay for the Pilot Service. 78. Already replied to.

(43). Relative to the Indents for Marine Stores. 79. Needs no reply.

(Para. 44). Third Report from the Committee for investigating outstanding Balances. Committee dissolved and shall determine soon on their Report.

(Para. 45). Claim on Mr Smoult determined by arbitration in his favour—whole Balances wrote off.

80. We see no reason to object to Your Proceedings noticed in these Paragraphs.

(46, 47). Prosecutions against Commercial Servants.

81. These Paragraphs are under the consideration of the Company's Solicitor.

(48). Mr William Jackson appointed Attorney at Law to the Company.

82. We approve of the Appointment of Mr. Wm. Jackson to be the Company's Attorney at Law at your Presidency, on the resignation of Mr. Wroughton, agreeably to our Orders of the 27th March 1787.

(49). Mr Wroughton recommended to the favourable notice of the Court of Directors.

(50). Concerning Colonel Call's Map of India.

(51). Transmitting Copy of a Chart of the Straights of Rhio.

83. Need no reply.

- (52). Transmitting a Letter from the Nabob of Bengal. 84. The Letter from the Nabob Mobareck Ul Dowlah being only a Duplicate of that received with your Dispatches of the 16th August 1787, and already adverted to in our Orders in the Public Department of April 1789, relative to the New Arrangements formed for the Nabob's Household, any particular reply to this Paragraph becomes unnecessary.
- (53). Measures to prevent the exaction of exorbitant Batta in the Exchange of Gold for Silver. 85. We have traced upon your Records the various method that have been adopted for putting a Stop to the exorbitant Batta demanded by the Shroffs and others on the Exchange of Silver for Gold—your endeavors to remedy an abuse of such a generally pernicious tendency are entitled to our warmest Commendations. Your last Dispatch of the 10th August 1789, has acquainted us that the evil tho' greatly prevented is not yet completely suppressed ; we therefore reply on the continuance of your endeavours for the final accomplishment of the intended reformation.
86. Lord Cornwallis in his Letter of the 2nd of August last has given it as his Opinion that there appears to be no *effectual* remedy for the evil, but a general new Coinage of all the Circulating Silver of the Country into Rupees, or sub-divisions of Rupees, of exactly the same weight, Standard and denomination, and his Lordship has assured us that he shall spare

no pains, and neglect no precautions, to accomplish, with safety, this salutary Work. When we consider the proposition simply, and without having regard to local prejudices, our assent naturally, and, as it were, in an instant, follows the proposal. But we wished to learn the opinion that may have been formed of it by the Natives and others upon the Spot, and we are happy to find by the Reports of the several Commercial Residents and Agents in the Provinces, entered on your Commercial Consultations of the 22nd May last, and by the Opinion of the Board of Trade on the Subject, that by the establishing of only one Single Coin throughout the Country, no inconvenience or loss of any consideration is likely to weigh against it's utility. If the Report of our Servants in the Revenue branch (who we observe have been consulted) shall be equally favourable to the project we trust his Lordship will be able to effect his purpose previous to his departure for Europe. We are aware that the measure will meet with great obstruction from the Shroffs and others who have hitherto reaped considerable advantage in exchanging the various species of Rupees that have hitherto passed Current in the several Districts. When once therefore it is resolved to carry the Plan into execution the most vigorous measures must be adopted in order to render it effectual.

- (54). State of the Treasury. 87. Needs no reply.

Answer to the Letter in the Public Department  
dated 9th January 1789

- (Par. 1). Advising the Sailing of Ships. }  
(2). Transmitting Consultations } 88. Need no reply.

- (3 @ 8). Guntoor Circar— 89. Such of these Paragraphs as  
Return of Mr Forster from require an answer will be replied  
Naigpoor. March of to in the Political Department.  
Troops to Anoopsheer—  
departure of Mr Montet  
from Chandernagore and  
the appointment of Mr  
*Montigny—Foreign Com-*  
*panies.*

- (9). Remittances to Fort St. George. 90. Needs no reply.

- (10). Apprehended Scarcity of Grain at Fort St. George. 91. We are sorry to remark by you  
last Letter of the 10th Augt,  
that apprehensions are again  
*entertained of a Scarcity of Grain*  
upon the Coast; we hope,  
however, that, in consequence  
of the application to you from  
the Madras Government of  
the 18th July last, you will be  
able to adopt measures for their  
relief should those apprehen-  
sions be realized.

- (11, 12). Remittance to Bombay. 92. Already replied to.

- (13 @ 17). Commercial. 93. These Paragraphs will be replied  
to in the Commercial Depart-  
ment.

- (18). Return of Messrs. Webber and Williams. 94. Needs no reply.

- (19). Police. 95. As we are informed by your  
last Advices of the 10th August  
that ~~have~~ have not come to any  
fin ~~for~~ solution relative to

the state of your Police, we shall defer giving our Sentiments on the Papers before us until we shall hear further from you upon the Subject.

- (20). Transmitting Addresses in favour of Mr. Hastings. 96. Needs no reply.
- (21). Mr B. Marsh appointed to enquire into the natural productions of Silhet. 97. As we have ever shewn a willingness to encourage the Study of Natural History, we approve of Mr Marsh being employed on a research into the Mineral, Vegetable, and Animal Productions of the Silhet Province. Mr Marsh's Reports must be transmitted to us from time to time that we may be able to judge if he be deserving of the 250 Rupees Per Month which you have agreed to allow him for his Trouble and Expences.
- (22, 23). A piece of Ground given to the Company by Colonel Kyd. 98. With respect to the piece of Ground contiguous to the Botanical Garden tendered to the Company by Lieut. Coll. Kyd, and for which he seems to expect some remuneration in future, we think it should be fairly valued by some impartial Person, and the Amount thereof immediately discharged.
- (24). Return of Mr George Nesbitt Thompson. 99. Needs no reply.
- (25, 26). Noticing the claim on the Estate of the late Mr Richardson further advices thereon to be forwarded hereafter. 100. In consequence of the Claim on the Estate of the late Mr. Richardson referred to us in these Paragraphs and the further materials which were transmitted with Your Letter of 10th August last by the Swallow, we shall take the necessary Steps for recovering the Balance due from the Estate.

101. The remainder of this Letter will be replied to in the Revenue Department.

General Letter : dated 10th March 1789. Para. 144. New Buildings to the Jail.

102. For the reasons stated in the 144th Paragraph of your Letter of the 10th March 1789, we approve of your having authorized the *Construction of Additional Buildings and Office to the new Jail*. Your last Dispatch of the 10th August 1789, has advised us of the necessity of some alterations beyond the first intention, in which we also acquiesced.

103. Such other parts of your before-mentioned Letter of the 10th March 1789, as requires a Reply, and which have not been already answered, will be replied to in the Political Revenue, Military, and Commercial Departments.

*Answer to the Letter in the Public Department  
dated 10th August 1789*

(Par. 1). Advising the transmission of Cons.

(2 & 3). Acknowledging the receipt of Court's Letter of the 18th February 1789 and answer thereto.

(4). Relative to Bills granted for the Judges Salary.

104. Need no reply.

(5 @ 8). Stationary.

105. Already replied to.

(9). Continuation of Answer to Court's Letter of 18th Feby. 1789.

106. Needs no reply.

(10). Mr Bruere's deficiencies.

107. Already replied to.

(11). Continuation of Answer to Court's Letter of 18th Feby.

108. Needs no reply.

(12). Pilot Schooners.

109. Already replied to.

- (13 @ 1). Continuation of Answer to Court's Letter of 18th Feby. } 110. Need no reply.
- (18). Answer to Secretary's Letter of 21st Feby. 1789. }
- (19 @ 23). Mode of supplying the Canton Treasury. 111. Already replied to.
- (24 @ 27). Project for establishing an intercourse by Dawk with the West of India *via* Hyderabad. 112. We approve of the proposed Plans for accelerating the Communication between Calcutta and Fort St. George, and for establishing a regular intercourse by Dawk with the West of India by the way of Hyderabad and Poona. So soon as these Plans shall be finally accomplished you will report to us the Expence attending their execution, and how far that expence can be lessened to the Company by the transmission of private Letters.
- (28, 29). Apprehension of a famine at Fort St. George. 113. Already replied to.
- (30). Relative to the Dispatch of the Swallow. 114. Needs no reply.
- (31 @ 33). Remittance to Bombay 115. Already replied to.
- (34, 35). Exchange of Bonds of the other Presidencies for those of Bengal. 116. We approve of the Advertizement that was issued relative to the Exchange of Bonds granted at the other Presidencies as mentioned in these Paras.
- (36 @ 40). Concerning a Bombay Bond presented for Subscription at Bengal for Rupees 17,540 and which had been reduced by transfers to Rupees 5,732. 117. We approve of your Proceedings as stated in these Paragraphs and entirely concur with you in the Censure you have passed on the Bombay Government for suffering Bonds to remain in Circulation uncanceled altho' the amount for which they were granted had



been in part drawn out of the Treasury, as the Company might have suffered considerable loss by so great an irregularity.

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| (41 @ 44). Fort Marlbro'.  | 118. Will be replied to in a Separate Letter.  |
| (45). Relative to Prince of Wales's Island.  | 119. Needs no reply.   |
| (46). Commercial Intercourse with Manilla.   | 120. In replying to this Paragraph we have only to refer you to our Letter in the Commercial Department of the 22nd April 1789, which advised you of our having entered into an Agreement with the Royal Philippine Spanish Company for a Commercial Intercourse with Manilla. |
| (47 @ 49). Political Commercial Treaty with the Vizier.  | 121. Will be replied to in the Commercial Department.  |
| (Para. 50). Letter from the Accountant General as to the close of the General Books and resolutions in consequence.                                      | 122. We have already signified our approbation of the measures You adopted and of the exertions of Your Accountant General respecting the closing and transmitting Your General Books.   |
| (51 @ 53). Certificates to be made payable to order in future—a Book to be kept to ascertain if any Balance remains undrawn of Warrant for Certificates. | 123. We approve of the Regulation advised in these Paragraphs.   |
| (54). Report from the Accountant General on claim on Mr Wm. B. Martin and Mr John Wombwell amounting to C. Rs. 2,320, referred.                          | 124. We shall pay proper attention to the reference contained in this Paragraph.   |

- (55). Same Report—Adjustment of the Nabobs Account referred to the Court.
125. From an attentive perusal of the Subject referred to us in this Paragraph, we cannot refrain from expressing great surprize and dissatisfaction at the inattentive and negligent manner in which the Nabobs Account has been kept and the considerable over payments made to him on account of his Stipend—it appears extraordinary that the Resident at the Durbar should have made such large Payments in several Years to the Nabob exceeding his Annual Stipend and that no notice was taken at the time of such over payments.
126. From the Receipt of our orders by the Harcourt in 1771 or at least from the communication of those orders to the Nabob regarding the reduction of his Stipend, care should have been taken that no more than the Annual Amount to which we had limited the Nabobs Stipend was paid, deducting the value of Salt Petre supplied and any other adjustments of account which might have taken place, and we consider it as a gross neglect that the contrary has obtained and large Balance thereby accumulated.
127. It is evident that the orders of Council of 26th Jany. 1784 must have been misunderstood by the Accountant to the Revenue Department, as it could not in any Shape be conceived that they were intended to operate to the effect of shewing a Balance due to the Nabob from

- (59) Committee for investigating Outstanding Balances abolished
- (60 & 61) Boards Minute and Resolution on consideration of their last report
- (62 & 63) Referring to Accounts of the Civil Servants and Establishments sent home
- (64 & 65) Separate Proceedings on the Auditors Monthly reports on Contingencies referred to
- (66) Additional Buildings to the Jail
- (67) Additional Buildings to the Accountant General's Office
- 131 As the continuing the several Heads of Debts the recovery of which is desperate on Balance in the Books Serves only to exhibit a fictitious Credit in the Company's Affairs we approve of the Resolutions of Your Government of the 10th June last thereon With regard to the Head of Charges French Prisoners referred to our consideration which appears to have been an outstanding Balance since 1764 arising from the Expenses of Subsistence to the Prisoners and other Articles, as in our Letter of April 1771 we directed this to be included under the Head of Good Debts. You will continue it for the present in Your General Books
- 132 We agree with you in your opinion respecting the attention paid by the Committee to the discharge of their Duty
- 133 Require no answer
- 134 As your examination of the Auditors Reports was not completed we shall postpone for the present any remarks thereon
- 135 Already replied to
- 136 As you have deemed the erection of some additional Buildings absolutely necessary for the conduct of the business of your Accountant General's Office and providing at the same time a proper Warehouse for the

preservation of the Stationary  
we approve of your Resolution  
in consequence.

- (Para. 68 @ 73). Decree of the Supreme Court against Mr Balquiere and the Boards determination and Mr Blaquiere's requests relative to the mode of liquidating by Instalments the Sum he was decreed to pay to the Company and that his Suspension from Office might be taken off.
137. We observe what you say respecting the giving time to Mr Blaquiere for payment of the money decreed to be due from him to the Company not doubting of your having been careful that the Security he has given is ample and that the Company will not run a risque of the money being paid at the stipulated Periods, we do not object to the indulgence you have shewn him in this respect.
138. As you refer to Your Proceedings in the Commercial Department for the determination of Mr Blaquiere's request our reply will of course be given in our letter in that Department.
- (Para. 74.) Advising the Decree in the Supreme Court against Mr Barton by which he is to pay to the Company C. Rs. 1,62,440 and Costs of Suit.
139. Requires no answer at present.
- (75). Commissioners of the Court of Requests exempted from serving on Juries.
140. Needs no reply.
- (76, 77). State of the Jail, and Salary to the Clerk to the Grand Jury.
- (78). Bill for the relief of Insolvent Debtors.
141. We approve of the Additional Salary allowed to the Clerk to the Grand Jury. The other Subjects mentioned in these Paras. need no reply at present.
- (79). Restriction of Servants from being employed in Banking Houses and Houses of Agency.
142. We approve of the regulations you have made restricting certain Officers from being engaged in Banking Houses and Houses of Agency.

- (80) Mr Plowden's resignation 143 Needs no reply
- (81) Claim of Mr Thomas Calvert 144 Whenever Mr Calvert, your late Comptroller of Salt, who is to come to England, shall prefer his Claim to us in behalf of himself and others we shall take the same into our consideration
- (82 @ 87) Adjustment of Mr Tyler's Rice Contract 145 We have perused your Minute of the 1st April 1789, in explanation of the principles upon which you have agreed to adjust Accounts between the Company and Mr Tyler in consequence of his Rice Contract, and approve thereof You have referred the whole of Mr Tyler's Case to our Candid consideration, with a reference to the concluding part of your before mentioned Minute of the 1st of April, recommending him for such further relief as we may think he merits But as you have already entered so minutely into the investigation of the subject, as you must also be much better judges than we of the general merits of the Case, in consequence of your having been eye witnesses of Mr Tyler's conduct, we shall leave it to you to determine what further compensation should be made to Mr Tyler on account of his late Contract
- (88) Gratuity to Mr George Forester 146 We approve of the Gratuity to Mr George Forester of Rupees 1000 Per Month for his Services while Resident at Nagpore In the 140th Paragraph of your Letter of the 10th March 1789, you have transmitted to us a Book written

by Mr Forester containing a Narrative of his Journey from Bengal to Europe. We shall consider of the propriety of publishing the same agreeable to Mr Forester's request.

89 @ 93). Arrangement  
Correspondence.

of 147. For the future Arrangement of your Correspondence we must refer you to the directions contained in the 91<sup>st</sup> Para. of our Letter in this Department of the 8th April 1789, for your Dispatches being sent to us under five separate Heads—*Viz.—Public, Political, Military, Revenue, and Commercial* Départments, to which arrangement you must be particularly attentive. Your Consultations must likewise be under these separate denominations. Your Correspondence with the Secree Committee in the terms of the Act of Parliament, and your Consultations in the Secret Department, will of course be distinct from the rest.

148. By these Orders we would not be understood to prohibit you from occasionally corresponding with us separately on the *Finances*.

(94, 95). Mr Lacam and New Harbour. 149. Already replied to.

(96). Memorial of Mr Lewis Belart. 150. Under the Circumstances that have been stated in the Petition and Memorial of Mr Lewis Belart, and the Papers which accompanied them, we are induced to acquiesce in the Pension of 40 Rupees Per Month which you have lately allowed him.

- (97 @ 100). Prosecution of Captain Hoirebow for Transporting to Ceylon a Number of the Natives of Bengal, and selling them for Slaves.
151. Your Conduct in apprehending and prosecuting to Conviction, Captain Hoirebow, for transporting a number of Natives of Bengal to the Island of Ceylon, and there selling them for Slaves, has received, as it merits, our warmest commendation and applause. As Lord Cornwallis has informed us that he has under consideration a Plan for the abolition of this Traffic, if possible we shall forbear to enlarge further upon the Subject until we receive such Plan.
- (101). Subscription to the Transactions of the Asiatic Society.
152. We approve of your Subscription for 50 Copies of the Transaction of the Asiatic Society.
- (102, 103). Exaction of Exorbitant Batta.
153. Already replied to.
- Para. 104). Respecting Complaints against the Tax imposed by the Bye Law in 1780 for cleaning & C. the Streets. The Bye Law translated into Bengalese and published.
154. We approve of your Proceedings in respect to the translation of the Bye Law of 1780 and the publication of the Accounts of the Disbursements of the Tax.
- (105). Complaints against the Commissioners of the Police.
155. Needs no reply.
- (106). Respecting the Articles consigned from Europe for the Botanical Garden, and request for a Vine Dresser, and some Slips of Cape Vines.
- 156 Will be replied to hereafter.
- (107) Donation from Mr Hastings to the Botanical Garden.
157. We shall furnish Mr Hastings with a Copy of this Paragraph.

(108). Testimonials in favour of 158. Needs no reply.  
Mr Hastings.

(109). Address to His Majesty. 159. The several Addresses to the King from the Nabob Vizier, and the Nabob Mobareck Ul Dowlah and his Eldest Son congratulating His Majesty on his late Happy recovery have been presented, in the usual manner, and which His Majesty was pleased to receive most graciously. It will be proper that you communicate this to the Nabobs of Oude and Bengal in a Letter suitable to the occasion.

(110). The Generosity of Coja 160. The remarkable instance of Cacheek Arakeel. Generosity and Benevolence exhibited by Coja Cacheek Arakeel an Armenian, on the Celebration of His Majesty's recovery, has attracted the notice and admiration of all Ranks of People in this Country. We *are ourselves so sensibly affected* with this Signal mark of attachment to the British Nation, that we mean to present the Worthy Armenian with His Majesty's Picture, to shew the sense we entertain of so extraordinary an act of humanity and Munificence.

(111). State of the Treasury. 161. Needs no reply.

162. Having appointed Stephen Lushington Esqr. Chairman, William Devaynes Esqr. Deputy Chairman, and John Manship Esqr during the present Direction to be a Secret Committee agreeably to and for the purposes stated in the Acts of the 24th and 26th of His present Majesty; We hereby direct that all Orders and Instructions which you shall receive from our said Select Committee be observed and obeyed with the same punctuality and exactness as if they had been signed by Thirteen or more Members of the Council. Directors conformably to the said Act.



163. We have appointed: Stephen Lushington Esqr. Chairman, William Devaynes Esqr. Deputy Chairman, together with Francis Baring, Thomas Cheap, Lionel Darell, John Manship, James Moffatt, John Roberts, Nathaniel Smith, George Tatem, and John Woodhouse Esquires to be the Committee of Secresy for giving the necessary *directions respecting the safety of the Companys Shipping*. The Orders therefore of any three of the said Committee respecting the same must be obeyed with the greatest punctuality.

164. Having thought fit to appoint Messrs. John Harrison, George Cuming, Alexr. Bruce, Charles Edward Pigou, Thomas Freeman and Thomas Kuyck Van Mierop to be a *Select Committee of Supra Cargoes*, with full Powers to transact the Company's Business in China. We direct that you address the said Committee whenever our affairs shall render it necessary for you to correspond with our Servants at Canton.

165. We have appointed Messrs. William Fitzhugh, Richard Hall, Samuel Peach, Hugh Parkin, Thomas Samuel Parry, and George Smith to be *Supra Cargoes* under the said Select Committee.

166. We have permitted Mr. Charles Taylor to return to his rank in our Civil Service at your Presidency.

167. Having received Memorials from Mr. John Richardson and Mr. John Sealy in behalf of his Brother Mr. Chas. Sealy, each praying to succeed to the Office of Advocate General in Bengal, whenever the same may become vacant, we have determined to leave it to Lord Cornwallis to Select a Gentleman of acknowledged professional abilities and application to fill the said Office, on the death, resignation or coming away of Mr. Davies the present Advocate General.

We are,

Your Affectionate Friends.

Stepn. Lushington/W. Devaynes/J. Manship/  
John Roberts/Thos. Parry/Wm. Money/  
Abram Roberts/Robt. Thornton/D. Scott/  
Lionel Darell/L<sup>d</sup>. Baring/Chas. Mills/Jas.  
Moffatt/Paul Le Mesurier

London  
28th April 1790.

## LETTER DATED 19 MAY 1790

*Increase in salary of deserving Officers—reduction in military expenditure—reward to retiring Advocate General.*

OUR Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. Your Letter of the 10th [14th?] January 1789 relative to the Establishments has been under our Consideration, and we have seen with great satisfaction the commendable attention You have paid to the Subject, it will be always our wish to accede to Your recommendations in favour of those Servants whose Emoluments you have pointed out as deserving an Increase, so far as may appear to us proper, but as by the Act of the 28th of His present Majesty Chap. 8 Sectn. 3, it is necessary that any proposed Increase in the actual Salaries or Emoluments of our Servants abroad, with the Reasons for our proposing the same should be laid before both Houses of Parliament Thirty Days before our orders can be forwarded to India and as some of the points referred to us may require the consideration of the General Court, it may not be practicable for us to give you our Sentiments at large on the Subject of Your Letter by the Ships of this Season. We shall therefore defer our reply thereto till the departure of the early Ships of the ensuing Season after the meeting of Parliament.

2. We cannot allow the last ship of the Season to depart without calling your attention to the state of our Possessions in India, respecting their Establishments. From the attentive examination which has recently been given to our Civil Establishments, we conceive that in all probability, they are brought to such a level as not to admit of any material alternation, and we agree entirely with the sentiments expressed by Lord Cornwallis in his Letters to us of the 7th March and 2nd August 1789, as to the propriety of persons in responsible situations being provided with adequate Salaries.

3. With respect to our Military Establishments which have been arranged agreeable to the directions contained in our Letter of the 22nd September 1785, it is proper to observe, that the situation of affairs in India and Europe, have under gone a material change since those Establishments were formed. Great Britain is now in a state of perfect amity with the Republic of Holland; and France has in a great measure withdrawn the Military force they had at Pondicherry, and from all your recent dispatches from India, we see no reason to apprehend any hostilities there.

4. Under all these circumstances we expect that before our Governor General leaves India he will accurately inform himself, how far there is room for any reduction in any part of our expensive Establishments; and if he is of opinion that such reductions can be made, we authorize him either to do so, without any further reference, or to bring with him such materials of information, as, aided by his authority, may enable us to act with confidence in any directions we may hereafter think proper to transmit.

5. In giving these directions we mean to include all our Military Establishments, not only Native, but European of every description. At the same time it is proper to mention that in considering our European Military force, it behoves you to attend, that it must at all times remain on such a Scale, as to be adequate to the purposes of war, on the event of hostilities taking place in India. It is not possible in such distant Settlements to act upon the principles which generally direct the conduct of Government in the arrangement of a peace Establishment. So far as respects a European force, it must be kept upon a footing to render it immediately useful for the operations of war, without trusting to any of those additions, which can be made to the Military force at home at the commencement of hostilities.

6. This principle we wish therefore to be attended to, but with perfect attention to that principle, we make no doubt but that upon an accurate consideration of the relative state of India and Europe, such arrangements may be suggested as will effectually contribute to the great object of a judicious and well directed economy.

7. Having taken into consideration the eminent services of Thos. Henry Davies Esq. our Advocate General in Bengal we have resolved to present him with thirty thousand Current Rupees, as a reward for his great diligence and attention in the Company's Affairs and direct that you pay the same to him accordingly.

8. We have permitted Mr. John Prinsep to return to Bengal and remain there three Years for the purpose of adjusting his private Concerns.

9. In consequence of an application from the Marine Society, we have transmitted sundry of their Letters and Books to our Presidencies in India, wishing to countenance an Institution so very beneficial to the Interest and Prosperity of the British Nation, we authorize you to draw Bills of Exchange upon us for the amounts of such subscriptions as may be paid into your hand on that account in favour of the Treasurer for the time being.

3. In the Account No. 2 Received per Northumberland the Actual Receipts of Revenue 1787 will be found to differ greatly from those contained in the Account No. 1 presented to Parliament in June last this difference arises in the following Articles.

4. The Mint Duties as extracted from Your General Books Page 82 amount to C Rs. 33,902. In your Statement they are only taken at CRs. 33,124, this difference though small arises from the omission of the Sum of CRs. 778 for the Gain on Copper Coin struck for Prince of Wales's Island which should however have been included.

5. The Revenue received from Benares in 1787-8, by the account No. 1 and 2 by the Northumberland including Balances collected is CRs. 43,68,150,, in the Account No. 1 presented to Parliament it is CRs. 45,67,524, this difference is owing to an error in the latter Statement but which arises from the Sum of Sa Rs. 164,641 or CRs. 190,983, having on Your General Books been deducted from the Gross Collections in page 337 for remissions; now the including this Sum as first collected & afterwards deducting it from the Collections appears so far wrong as that all remissions it should seem must be understood never to have been collected at all but are in fact deductions to be made from the Jumma or Rent Roll the remaining difference is occasioned by the Sum of CRs. 8,391, under Profit & Loss included in the latter Account as taken from the General Books.

6. The next Article standing on the last mentioned Account is the Receipts from the Vizier for the Army Subsidy &c.—this Your Accountant in No. 2 per Northumberland has separated into two heads—the first containing the Expences of the Residencies at Lucknow and other native Courts amounting by the Estimate of 1787-8 to CRs. 847,724, the other consisting of the Army Subsidy only estimated at CRs. 47,02,275— the first Sum includes the Stipends to the Viziers Brothers and the Rohillas which as the Court have remarked in the 4 Paragraph of their Separate Letter of 19th instant make no part of the Companys Revenue, the second differs from the Amount Charged for Military purposes on Page 326 of the General Books which is CRs. 48,44,845.

7. Against the first Sum no actual Receipt is inserted in No. 2 and opposed to the second, the actual Receipts are stated at CRs. 45,51,000, the reason for this appears to be that as there was a Balance due at the end of the year CRs. 999,000, this deducted from the Total of the two Sums charged in the Estimate as above, leaves that before-mentioned of CRs. 45,51,000, as the Receipt for the Current Year.

8. The actual Receipts from His Excellency in the course of the Year amounted however to a much larger Sum, part of which is for the Balance due at the commencement of the Year but to conform to

the Plan here adopted in Stating the Account to Parliament the Amount Charged in the Year to the Vizier is taken as the actual Receipts from him thereof provided these altogether amount to the Sum Charged—and although this may not be considered as strictly correct, yet when the Vizier shall have cleared his Balance (and by the Quick Stock of 30th April 1789, he appears to have been little more than 1 Kist in arrear) the aggregate Receipts for a number of Years will virtually produce the Same end.

9. It would be satisfactory if the Receipts from the Vizier could be specified so as to shew on what particular Accounts his Payments are made, whether for Balance due, for Current Subsidy or other Payments on the Company's or his own account such as the Stipends to his Brother and the Rohillas, Pensions, &c &c, this it is conceived might easily be done by adding Columns for each head, in the Account Current on the General Ledger or in the Residents Treasy. Accounts.

10. With respect to the Land Revenues the Amount estimated for 1787-8, deducting Benares was CRs. 294,81,833, which included CRs. 69,600 for Fees, the actual Collections exclusive of Benares are by the Account No. 2, CRs. 295,84,630, which apparently Contradicts the assertions contained in the 14th and 31st Paragraphs of your Letter of 12 March 1789, in the first of which the actual Revenues of this Year are said to have been CRs. 300,49,971-6-11, and in the latter to have exceeded their Estimated Amount by CRs. 637,736-14-5,—this difference may in part be accounted for by adding the Fees and other Articles under the head of Extra Receipts in the Account No. 1 Per Northumberland amounting to Sa. Rupees 346,404, or CRs. 401,829, as the Sum of CRs. 295,84,630, above stated is solely the Current Years Revenue and Balances collected; it is however doubtful if some of these Articles of Extra Receipts are properly to be included such as the Receipt from Mr. Lindsay not explained on what Account the Sale of Dead Stock & Tueceavy; if the whole however be added these two will make only CRs. 299,86,459, and there will then be deficient CRs. 62,512. of the Collections stated in the 14 Paragraph above quoted and if it was intended to include these extra Collections in the Sum of CRs. 300,49,971 they should have had place in the Account No. 2 a Sum of CRs. 69,600, for Fees being their included in the Estimated Revenues.

11. If the Sum of CRs. 300,49,971 could be made out, the excess stated at CRs. 637,737, arises from deducting the estimated Amount of the Land Revenues exclusive of Fees being CRs. 294,12,233, from the first Sum but this is not a fair Comparison for if the Fees &c are added in one instance (and it is shewn above that even with them

Amount stated is not made up) they should also be included in the other—in the Comparison they are included in the estimated but not in the actual Amount.

12. In every view of this Article therefore it appears to be erroneously stated, the actual collections of Land Revenues including Balances and unestimated Collections amounts as Per No. 1 and 3 presented to Parliament to CRs. 298,30,725.

13. The next Article I have to remark upon is the Amount of Customs stated in the Account No. 2 received Per Northumberland at CRs. 19,91,982, but in the Accounts No. 1 and 3, laid before the House of Commons at CRs. 20,03,907, as extracted from the General Books of 1787-8 Page 307, the difference CRs. 11,925, may be accounted for nearly by adding the Amount of Seizures under the head of extra Collections in Your Account No. 1 being Sa. Rs. 9,551 or CRs. 11,030.

14. The Gross Amount received for the Sales of Salt for this Year, not being inserted on the General Books the Charges Calculated the same as last Year deducting the Payments on account the Zemindars Debts, were added to the Nett Profit, on the General Books (supposed also to be exclusive of such Payments) in order to form an estimated Gross Receipt, whatever Sum was thus taken on Estimate for the Gross Receipt it is evident the nett Profit could not be varied thereby the same Amount being taken for charges on both sides of the Account however it appears by Your Statement No. 2 that the nett Profit of the Sales is only CRs. 48,99,384, but by the General Books Page 338 CRs. 50,56,110, exhibiting a difference of Curt: Rs. 156,726.

15. In regard to the Charges of 1787-8, a similar Comparison of the Several Heads cannot accurately be made, as it is certain these as they stand on the General Books include Disbursements on account of Arrears of former Years the Separation of which is not practicable taking however these as they are separately inserted on the Comparison No. 2 received Per Northumberland and adding thereto the Current Years Charges by the same Account and comparing them with the Amount disbursed by Your General Books the Result is as follows.

16. The Charges in Arrears in the Civil Department are CRs. 691,985, and the Current Disbursements CRs. 35,66,084 Total CRs. 42,58,069, deducting from this the Payments to Nabob Mirza Saudit Ally and the Rohillas (not taken as charges in the Statements drawn up here) being Per Account No. 1 CRs. 290,670, the remainder is CRs. 39,67,399.

17. By the Account No. 3 sent Per Vestal the Total is CRs. 39,20,329 but this includes Benares Expences CRs. 228,143, inserted by your Accountant among the Revenue charges thus deducted leaves CRs. 36,92,186, it is possible a further Sum may be included above for Arrears paid on the Accounts there mentioned as CRs. 310,071, were disbursed for Arrears of Allowances at Lucknow which may nearly account for the difference.

18. The Military Charges of 1787-8, and Arrears of former Years together amount to CRs. 153,05,470, from which taking the Commission on the Revenues CRs. 412,456, usually added in the Accounts drawn out here to the Revenue Charges and the Expence of Fortifications and Buildings 241,506, the remainder is CRs. 146,51,508.

19. In the Account No. 3 abovementioned the Military Charges defrayed in 1787-8, as selected from the General Books are CRs. 141,09,671, being less than the above by CRs. 541,837, which difference probably arises from the omission of the expenditure of Stores on the General Books.

20. The Marine Charges in the same account are CRs. 88,510, above those in your Statement No. 2, this is more than made up by the Sum of CRs. 92,311, carried to this head of Charges on the General Books being the difference between the cost of sundry Vessels and the Amount for which they were sold.

21. In the Revenue Department the Arrears and Current Charges amount to CRs. 74,43,056, including Benares and by the Account No. 3, above referred to the Total is CRs. 79,05,708—this includes the Commission on the Revenues CRs. 412,456, which as remarked above it has been usual to add with the Revenue Charges in the Statements drawn up here—deducting this the remainder in CRs. 74,93,342, the difference about 50,000 CRs. probably arises from several Sums under Profit and Loss not being included in your Statements among the Revenue Charges as they are on the General Books.

the preceding year—it seems fair to set against the Amount of the Sales, the Sum advanced for the Specific Articles of which those Sales are composed and this practice has been always followed here in stating the Receipts of Revenue arising from Ophium.

23. The Commercial charges of 1787-8 as separately stated in the Account No. 10 (a) of those laid before Parliament exceed those in No. 2 received Per Northumberland by upwards of 2 Lacs of Current Rups. this arises from the deduction made in the latter for Contingent Charges of the Warehouses supposed to include the Agency Commission on the Purchases of Investment—and which being added to the Invoices the deduction appears proper but as this only took place in the Year 1787-8 if the deduction had been made in the first mentioned Account it would have exhibited an apparent decrease of the Commercial Charges, on a Comparison with the foregoing Years which it might be questioned if really existing as the Commission may rather be considered as a substitute for the charges of Establishment of Factories now converted to agencies and therefore a transfer of the Amount from the Head of Charges where it stood in former Years, to that of the Investment provided at those Factories so converted into Agencies in the present year.

24. The specification of the Arrears of charges in the several Departments at the end of the Year is very proper as these should certainly be added with the actual Disbursements on account of the Current Year in order to form a just Comparison with the estimated Amount. The charges inserted on the General Books including Arrears of former Years are therefore not properly stated in a comparison of this kind but for want of materials when the Account for 1787-8 were drawn up for Parliament a discrimination could not be made the addition of the former Years arrears and their deduction from the Revenues of 1787-8, as in the Account No. 2 of those received Per Northumberland does not however appear proper as the actual Surplus of the Current year is thereby short of its real amount—and notwithstanding the Balance in that Account is said to be the actual Surplus Revenue of 1787-8 exclusive of the Charges in arrear of the former year—yet as observed above those charges in arrear are added with the Current Years Charges and the Arrears on the 30th April 1788, and the whole deducted from the Revenues to form such actual Surplus, which is thereby short Credited by the Sum of CRs. 27,27,954.

25. Although any remarks upon the Accounts received from Madras and Bombay will be more properly directed to those Governments yet as the Comparisons between their Estimated and actual



Revenues and Charges 1787-8, were formed by your Accountant it may not be improper to add such observations as have arisen on their perusal.

26. In regard to the actual Receipts from the Nabob of Arcot it is not practicable to distinguish in the Account received from Madras what part is for Arrears what for Debts or Current Subsidy; the latter however is supposed to be received in equal amount to what was estimated and is therefore so taken in the Accounts No. 4 & 6, laid before Parliament as well as in No. 4 received Per Northumberland.

27. The Receipts from the Rajah of Tanjore are by the Accounts No. 3 received by the same conveyance Pags. 487,548, said to be for Subsidy and for Arrears and Current Peshcush—it appears by the Madras Estimate for 1787-8 that the Rajah was in arrears on 30th April 1787 Pags. 185,823, but which was in course of Payment when the Estimate was formed—for this reason this Sum has been deducted here from the first mentioned in order to shew the Current Years Receipts, but in the Account No. 4 Per Northumberland they are stated at 4 Lacs.

28. The Civil Charges by the Account No. 4 aforesaid are Pags. 2,25,399, but by the Comparison No. 6. Pags. 218,677, this difference arises from the Sum of Pags. 7490, for Secret Services being included in the former but which in the Madras Account stands under Military Charges and a similar entry in the Estimate for 1788-9 is also included under the same head of Charges—this is therefore rejected from the Civil Expences in the Account No. 6 which includes Pags. 768 for advances for the King of Pegu's Ship not in the former the difference between which and the charge of Secret Services constitutes the Excess ~~therein~~ noticed.

31. As the charges disbursed in 1787-8, most probably included Arrears due of former Years, the excess of charges is thereby overrated in the Statement No. 4 abovementioned.

32. As to Bombay the Estimated amount of Revenues 1787-8 in the Account No. 6 Per Northumberland is less than in No. 9 presented to Parliament by Rupees 14,750, owing to this Sum included in the Estimate for the Hire of Docks Duties &c in the Marine Department omitted in the former the actual Collections differ in the Sum of Rupees 27,898, received on this account which is also omitted in the first mentioned Statement.

33. The Estimated Amount of Charges for 1787-8, will agree in both Accounts deducting from the first Rs. 11,500, for Commercial charges stated separately, but with respect to the actual Disbursements they appear to differ considerably,—the manner in which the Bombay Account is drawn out renders a precise Statement of the Disbursements very difficult, but on the best that can be made out the result is as follows.

34. The Arrears actually discharged are stated in No. 6—Per Northumberland at Rupees 239,400, but by No. 5 under the Head of Arrears discharged the Amount is Rups. 332,448, after deducting the Debts to the King of Travancore which cannot be considered as a charge, this includes Rs. 52,282, the Balance of Account of the late Marine Storekeeper which belongs to the Marine; besides that the Sum of Rupees 281,988, appears under the Head of Disbursements unprovided for in the Estimate to have been expended for Arrears which cannot with propriety be charged any otherwise than as an actual Payment on that account.

35. Without entering into a further examination of the particular division of the charges, I shall only observe that the Total in the Account No. 6 is stated at 66 Lacs including the Arrears due 30th April 1788, 19½ Lacs but this latter it is presumed must Comprehend the Balance of Arrears on 30th April 1787, undischarged being about 13 Lacs, deducting this Sum the remainder is 53 Lacs, but by the Account No. 8 presented to Parliament only 47 Lacs, the difference is supposed to arise from the former including the Debt due to the King of Travancore & some other Articles not properly belonging to the Heads of Charges—but which from the method of stating the Bombay Accounts cannot be distinguished with accuracy.

36. In your Estimate of Resources and Disbursements for 1788-9 the Extra Receipts include the Sum of CRs. 10,904, for Supplies from Bombay and on the other side the same Sum is charged to the Marine

Department as the amount cost of Vessels expected from Bombay; but this latter Entry appears erroneous, for as the Estimated Supply to Bombay provides for the whole deficient Balance of their Estimate—the value of these Vessels to be sent to Bengal which makes a part of that deficiency should stand Credited for in the Receipts of the latter Presidency.

37. As the Court have in their Letter of 19th Inst. animadverted upon the particulars of the Estimated Revenues and Charges for 1788-9 little further seems necessary to be said thereon in this place I have to observe however that the Estimated Revenues in the Account No. 16, do not include the Fees under the Head of Extra Resources of this Department amounting to 111,360, and in the Account No. 16, the excess of expected Revenues is said to be exclusive of the Arrears of charges at the commencement of the Year—this would naturally lead to a supposition that those Arrears were not at all inserted in the Account but the Contrary is the fact for they are added to the Current Years Charges and the Total deducted from the estimated Revenues in order to form the excess.

38. In the Account No. 4 presented to Parliament the Total estimated Revenues of Madras for 1788-9 are Stated at Pags. 33,96,133 in No. 18 per Northumberland formed by your Accountant at Pags. 50,000, more than this Sum, this difference appears to arise from the latter including the above Sum to be paid to the Rajah of Tanjore's Private Creditors which is rejected in the former conformable to the reasons assigned in the note [note] and a [sic] add to that Account for adjusting the expected Receipts from the Nabob and Rajah at the amount therein inserted.

39. The Estimated Charges of Madras though agreeing in their Total Amount in No. 5 presented to Parliament and No. 18 Per Northumberland differ however in the particular Heads, first the Civil Charges in the former are 3,000, Pagodas less than in the latter Account—this arises from the Amount of Secret Services stated in the Estimate at 7,500, being included in the last but which on reference to the Estimate stands included under the head of Military Charges and is therefore so taken in No. 5, in which the Sum of 4,500, for cleaning the Fort and Black Town has been inserted among Civil Charges not being considered as an Expence either of new Fortifications or Buildings or Repairs thereto—although added to this Head in No. 18.

40. The Military Charges including Fortifications and Buildings are by No. 5 Ps. 27,10,401, which exceeds the Amount in No. 18 by Ps. 12,640, this difference is accounted for by the above Article of

Secret Services Ps. 7,500, included in the first as also the charge of the Sibbendy amounting to Ps. 30,640, which in the Madras Estimate stands under Military Charges and in fact makes no part of the charge of collecting the Companys Revenues although added to the Revenue Charges in No. 18—the Gratuity Fund Ps. 21,000 in the latter included among Military but added in No. 5 to the Revenue Charges conformable to the usual practice observed here in stating the Accounts—and the Expenditure of cleaning the Fort &c Ps. 4,500, as above noticed being deducted, the difference is the excess in No. 5.

41. The difference in the Revenues and Charges is explained in the foregoing.

42. In selecting the Revenues and Charges of Bombay in No. 20 from the Estimate of 1788-9, received from thence there appears also some differences between that Account and Nos. 7 and 8 presented to Parliament—on the Revenue side the first mentioned Account has 27,000 Rupees less than in No. 7, which arises from the omission of the estimated Collections in the Marine Department for Hire of the Dry Docks Tonnage &c amounting to this Sum.

43. The Principal difference in the Charges is explained in the Notes annexed to No. 8, where it is shewn that 6 Lacs are added for Disbursements not provided for in the Estimate—if this Sum were added to the Charges in Account No. 20, there would then be an excess of 11,000, Rupees occasioned by the insertion of the Commercial Charges to that amount which are rejected in No. 8, being included in a separate Account.

44. In regard to the particular divisions of these Charges the including in No. 20, the Repairs of Buildings and Commercial Disbursements with the Civil Charges accounts for the excess in that Statement, the Revenue and Military Charges agree in both, the Marine are 1500 Rupees more and the Fortifications and Buildings (adding Rupees 80,009; for Repairs under Civil) will be the same Sum less in No. 20, possibly owing to this Sum which in the Estimate is included under the head of Buildings for Repairs to the Admiralty House, being taken from that head and added to the Marine Charges.

45 The Estimated Receipts for Sales of Imports is meant only to include such as are received from Europe, in this view therefore it is probable that the amount charged for Sales of Stores in No. 23 by the Northumberland may be in some measure erroneous as to all the three Presidencies, as it may include the Sales of Stores made or purchased in the Country, it is clearly, so with respect to Madras where the Sum of Pags. 55,712, or CRs. 2,36,776, is included for the Sale of Rice.

46. In the General Abstract of Quick Stocks at the three Presidencies on 30th April 1788—No. 12 received per Northumberland the Simple Contract Debts of the Company at Fort William are stated at CRs. 191,34,959, but on reference to the Quick Stock of this date, the Certificate Debt with Interest amounts to CRs. 20560374, if the Certificates not issued by the Board of Trade are meant to be deducted viz. CRs. 28,94,532 the remainder is CRs. 176,65,842, there appears therefore some mistake in the insertion of the first mentioned Sum in the General Abstract.

47. The Amount of the Bonded Debts at Bombay in the General Abstract is 170,09,765, and of the Simple Contract Debts bearing Interest 102,628, by the Abstract Quick Stock No. 11 the first is composed of the Debts on Bond at the Presidency Surat and Tellicherry only; the particulars of the Quick Stock at this date have not been transmitted to Europe, but it appears by the Bombay Estimate of 1788-9, that several Sums were due at Interest at Anjengo, Bussorah and Bushire amounting together to Rs. 1,35,840, which if they were stated separately on the Quick Stock should properly have been added to the first mentioned Head; from the Quick Stock not being received the Sums that compose the—2d Head cannot be discriminated: it appears however that the Arrears and Debts by the Quick Stock exceed those on the Estimate for 1788-9 by Rs. 3,40,758 as by the first deducting the Bond Debts they are Rupees 28,45,222—and on the latter only Rups. 25,04,464.

48. In stating the annual Interest on the Bonded and other Debts in the account No. 24—The Calculation of Interest on the Bombay Bond Debt is made at 8 Per Cent only instead of 9½ Per Cent by which the Total amount is CRs. 1,81,622, short of what it should be—and as some part of the Deposits at the Presidency bear an Interest, a further addition should be made on that Account; in this predicament are the Debts to Mr. Shaws Executors and Mr. Ramsay amounting to about 170,000, Rupees but not particularly pointed out in the Bombay Accounts, and the omission is not therefore imputable to your Officers who formed that Statement.

49. Having thus gone through an examination of the Accounts received by the Northumberland and pointed out such particulars therein as require Correction or explanation, I have only to observe that proper attention being paid to the foregoing remarks will, it is hoped render the Statement of future Years much more accurate—it is however incumbent on me to notice that notwithstanding the apparent inaccuracies in those Accounts great assiduity and labour have been exerted by your Accountant in their formation.

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49. Having thus gone through an examination of the Accounts received by the Northumberland and pointed out such particulars therein as require Correction or explanation, I have only to observe that proper attention being paid to the foregoing remarks will, it is hoped render the Statement of future Years much more accurate—it is however incumbent on me to notice that notwithstanding the apparent inaccuracies in those Accounts great assiduity and labour have been exerted by your Accountant in their formation.

50. From the necessary attention to other points of my Official Duty I am obliged at present to defer any remarks on the other Books and Accounts received from Your Government but which I shall continue by the first opportunity—in the mean time it is but justice to acknowledge the early transmission of your General Books for the two last Years has afforded great assistance in drawing up the Annual Statements for Parliament to a late period—an object which is highly desirable and is an additional proof of the exertions of Your Accountant General.

East India House  
London  
21 May 1790.  
[Duplicate. Per *Swallow*]

I have the honour to be  
with the greatest respect,  
My Lord and Gentlemen  
Your most Obedient & most  
H<sup>ble</sup> Servant,  
Wm Wright.  
Auditor of Indian Accounts.

## 15

## LETTER DATED 3 JUNE 1790

*Appointment of Oakely as Governor of Madras.*

OUR Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. Our last Letter to you in this Department was transmitted by the Ship *Foulis* under date the 19th Instant [May], and we now transmit you Duplicate thereof.

2. We have appointed Major General William Medows to succeed to the Government General of your Presidency upon the Death, Removal or Resignation of Earl Cornwallis the present Governor General.

3. We have appointed Wm. Cowper Esqr. to be a Member of your Council in the room of John Shore Esqr. who has resigned the Company's Service.

4. Herewith you will receive a Commission constituting and appointing the Governor General and Council at our Presidency of Fort William in Bengal.

5. We have appointed Sir Charles Oakely Bart. to succeed Major General Willm. Medows in the Government of Fort George.

6. We have appointed Major General Thomas Musgrave to be second, William Petrie Esqr. third and John Huddleston Esqr. fourth in Council at the Presidency of Fort St. George.



7. We transmit in the Packet, Copy of a Commission constituting and appointing the President and Council at our Presidency of Fort St. George.

8. The Swallow Packet Captain George Curtis, by which you will receive these Dispatches is to be employed in such manner as you may think most advisable for the interest of the Company.

9. We have permitted Mr. Lewis Dalrymple to proceed to India and remain there three years for the purpose of settling his private affairs.

10. We have permitted Mr. James Bice Maffett to proceed to Bengal under Free Merchants Indentures.

We are,

Your loving Friends.

Stephen Lushington/W. Devaynes/J. Man-  
ship/John Roberts/Thos. Fitzhugh/Chas.  
Mills/Thos. Parry/ T. Pattle/F. Baring/Paul  
Le Mesurier/Jacob Bosanquet/Wm. Money/  
Thos. T. Metcalfe/Thos. Cheap/George  
Tatem.

London

the 3rd June 1790.

[Duplicate. Per *Swallow*]

16

## LETTER DATED 15 SEPTEMBER 1790

*Court approves of measures taken in connection with war with Tipu.*

OUR Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. We have received your several Advices by the Earl of Chesterfield. As we wish not to delay the departure of the present Packet, it is not our intention, by this opportunity, to enter into a particular reply to those Advices. It may, however, be satisfactory to you to know, that the various preparations of your Government for a vigorous prosecution of the War against Tippoo Sultan, have met with our entire approbation. And although we have no official advice of the Treaties with the Marattas and the Nizam, for securing their respective co-operation in the War, having been finally concluded; yet we concur, in general, in the principles on which the Negotiation has been carried on, and are thoroughly sensible of the zeal and abilities which dictated a measure so consonant to every principle of sound policy. Under circumstances so pleasing to us, and in the firmest reliance on the professional talents of General Medows, and on the bravery of the troops under his command, we expect, with confidence, a speedy and successful conclusion to the present hostilities.

2. You will learn our sentiments respecting the provision of an Investment from the Coast, by the enclosed Copy of our Letter to the Madras Government; Your resolution, therefore, for permitting that Government to appropriate the Lack of Pagodas they had raised towards the purchase of Goods, as advised in your Commercial Dispatch of the 12 April last, is highly agreeable to us, as it is our earnest wish at all times to receive a good Investment from the Coast.

We are,

Your affectionate Friends.

London  
the 15th September  
1790  
[Per John]

Steph. Lushington/W. Devaynes/J. Mans-  
ship/Nathl. Smith/Paul Le Mesurier/Hugh  
Inglis/Wm. Money/Thos. Parry/Abram  
Robarts/Chas. Mills/R. Thornton/John  
Roberts/D. Scott/Jacob Bosanquet/Thos.  
Cheap/Jas. Moffatt/Lionel Darell.

17

## LETTER DATED 10 NOVEMBER 1790

*Convention between Spain and Great Britain signed—suspension of Holland from his seat in Fort St. George Council approved.*

OUR Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. We have great satisfaction in acquainting you that a Convention\* between His Majesty and the King of Spain (a Copy of which is enclosed) for terminating the differences which has [*sic*] arisen with that Court, was Signed at Escorial on the 28th of October last. Altho' we have no particular Instructions to give you on the Subject of this Convention, we must nevertheless observe that we feel much pleasure in the reflection that the matters in dispute between the two Courts have been adjusted without Hostilities, in which the Company might eventually have been engaged; as our respective Governments are now at liberty, with their United Forces, to prosecute the War with Vigor against Tippoo Sultaun.

2. For the reasons stated in Lord Cornwallis's Minute of the 22d April 1790, and referred to in the 4th Para. of your Letter in the Political Department of the 12th of April last, we entirely approve of the Resolution of your Government for suspending Mr. Edward John Holland from his Seat in the Council at Fort St. George, and we have directed him to return to Europe.

\*See *Cambridge History of the British Empire*, Vol. II, p. 30 (Cambridge, 1961)

3. We also acquiesce in the reasons which induced you, under the Circumstances stated in the 7th, 8th and 9th Paragraphs of your said Letter, to recommend to the Madras Government, the removal of Mr. James Taylor from that Council; and as we have completed the Council by recent appointments made in Great Britain, Mr. Taylor will of course resume his former Station under the Madras Presidency.

We are,

Your Affectionate Friends,

Step Lushington/We Devaynes/John Roberts/George Tatem/Jno. Townson/Thos. Parry/Abram Robarts/Thos. Fitzhug/Thos. Cheap/Jno. Woodhouse/F. Baring/Thos. T. Metcalfe/T. Pattle/Hugh English/John Manship.

London  
the 10th Novr. 1790.  
[Per *Minerva*.]

18

LETTER DATED 15 DECEMBER 1790

*Botanical Garden—Bombay bonds—dak Intercourse with Western India—proposed dock at Diamond Harbour—remittance of 20 lakhs to China—Tyler's rice contract—resignation regulations for civil servants—Anglo-Spanish Convention confirmed.*

OUR Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. Our Letter to you in this Department under date of the 10 November last, was sent by His Majesty's Frigate *Minerva*; Duplicate was forwarded by Lieut: Hy. Fox Calcraft and Mr. Baxter Overland: And by the *Albion* you will receive a Triplicate of the same. Also a Triplicate of our Letter of the 15th September 1790.

2. We have appointed the under named Gentlemen to be Writers in part of the number agreed to be sent to your Presidency last Season—Vizt. William Leycester, James Money, George William Lucadon, John Dean.

3. Having taken into our Consideration the Cases of the Commanders and Officers of the Ships *Winterton* and *Lord Marcartney*; We have agreed to remit the Duties paid by them on their last outward bound Investment, and you are hereby directed to repay them such Sums only as were actually paid in the names of the respective Commanders and Officers.

4. In consequence of your having appointed Mr. W. Simpson Junior Counsel to the Company at your Presidency we transmitted you by the Ship John the usual Covenants for him to enter into and you are to return them by the first Conveyance after their being executed and witnessed.

5. We have permitted Mr. Robert Morris to proceed to your Presidency, to practice as a Barrister in the Supreme Court of Judicature there.

Answer to the Letter in the Public dated the 5th November 1789  
Department.

(Par. 1). Transmitting Cons :

(2). Acknowledging receipt of Court's Orders Per Houghton and Oxford dated the 8th 22nd and 29th April 1789.

6. Need no reply.

(3 @ 6). Reply to Court's Orders of the 8th April 1789.

(7 @ 11). Sir John Macpherson's Salary.

7. In paying to the Attorneys of Sir John Macpherson the Sum of Current Rupees 50,000 over and above what was due to him on Account of his Salary you acted in perfect consistency with the Spirit of our Orders of the 8th April 1789.

(12). Continuation of Answer to Court's Orders 8th April 1789.

8. Needs no reply.

(13@ 35). Botanical Garden.

9. Lieutenant Colonel Kyd's remarks on the Observations of Sir Joseph Banks respecting the Botanical Garden at Calcutta will be submitted to Sir Joseph's perusal together with the Paper referred to in the 21st Para. of your Subsequent Dispatch of the 7th December 1789. As we have uniformly shewn an inclination to afford every proper encouragement

to this Institution we shall not object to your having authorized Colonel Kyd to employ Mr Thomas Hughes in the Botanical Garden at an Allowance of 200 Sa. Rs. Per Mensem (mentioned in your Cons. 23rd October) on the condition of the promised reductions in other Charges; nor to the acceptance of the serve of Major Yoon to procure some Plants and rarities of the production of China.

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| (14 @ 27). Reply to Court's Orders of 8th April 1789.                     | } 10. Need no reply.   |
| (28). Do. of 22d April 1789.  |  |
| (29, 30). Relative to Mr Pigou's Claim for a Deposit of the Mayors Court. | 11. We have received the Collection of Papers here noticed, and (shall refer the same to the consideration of our Solicitor. |
| 31, 32). Continuation of reply to Courts Orders of 22nd April 1789.       | } 12. Need no reply.   |
| (33, 34). Reply to Courts Orders of 29th April 1789.                      |  |
| (35). Botanical Garden.   | 13. Already replied to.  |
| (35, 37). Supply of Rice to Madras and Tellicherry.                       |  |

- (39). Mentioning that the Remittance to Fort St. George in Gold Bullion has turned out advantageous, and that mode of Supply might probably be repeated.
- (40). Nabob of Arcot's representations respecting his Payments.
- (41 @ 45). *Fraud in the transfer of Bombay Bonds.*
- (46). Relative to the Establishment of an Intercourse by Dawk with the West of India.
- (47 @ 49). On the Subject of Presents from the Poonah Minister to the Governor General ; and other Negotiations with that Durbar—Also recommend
16. The Subject of your Remittances to Fort St. George in Gold Bullion will be included in our Answer to your last Dispatch of the 12th April 1790.
17. This Para. will be replied to in the Political Department.
18. *We approve of your Instructions of the 4th Sept. 1789, to the Presidency of Bombay for securing the Company against the Injury they might suffer from the improper mode of paying the Amount of Bombay Bonds.*
19. We have already signified our approbation of the Plan for establishing a regular communication by Dawk with the West of India, and are pleased to find by your subsequent Dispatch of the 13th Feby. last that it has answered your expectations. We are duly sensible of the Services of Mr. Malet, our Resident at Poonah, upon this occasion. To enable us to judge of the future success of the Plan you are to make an Annual Report to us of the Charges attending it, and of the Profit or Revenue arising from the transmission of private Letters.
20. To be replied to in the Political Department.

ing a Present to be made by the Court to the Peswah of some Mathematical Instruments, Maps, &c.

- (50, 51). Relative to Fort Marlborough.
- (52). Relative to Prince of Wales's Island referring to Consultations for an Account of Military Charges and for Instructions to Captain Light relative to the King of Queda and other of the Malay Princes.
- (53). Accountant General's Remarks on Colonel Murray's Suggestions respecting the Certificate Plan of Decr. 1785.
- (54). Gratuities allowed to the Native Assistants in the Accountant's Office for extra attendance and exertions in completing the General Books of 1787/88 and 1788/9.
- (55). Noticing Mr Larkin's illness and consequent leave of Absence—and expectation that he will during his absence endeavour to accomplish his Plan for alterations and Improvements in the Accounts—Bonds at Par—and some Certificates 3 Annas Per Cent Premium.
21. Need no reply.
22. We shall defer giving you any directions on the subject of Prince of Wales's Island until we receive your final report respecting the new Settlement on the Andamans.
23. Should it appear to us necessary to notice the Subject referred to in this Para. we shall advise you of our Sentiments thereon in our Letter on the Finances.
24. We approve of your Resolutions respecting the Gratuities given to the Native Assistants in the Accountant's Office for the reasons here mentioned.
25. The first part of this para. requires no answer. The information contained in the latter part is satisfactory.

- 57, 58). Indemnification of some Natives of Pegue against a process the Supreme Court.
27. Under the Circumstances that have been stated we approve of the relief you afforded to the Vessel under the Charge of some Natives of Pegue which had been attached by an Order of the Supreme Court of Judicature. We trust you will find no difficulty in procuring a reimbursement for from the King of Pegue of the Sicca Rupees 3,000 advanced upon this occasion, and that His Majesty will likewise be induced to discharge the Sum he stands indebted to the Company for advances made at Madras some years ago on account of another of his Ships called the *Thurrendah*, agreeably to the intimation contained in the 6 Par. of your Letter of the 12 April last.
- (59). Forwarding Copy of the Contract with Mr Darley for repairing the Jail.
- (60). Transmitting List of Appointments.
- (61). Advising the resignation of Mr Patrick Heatley.
28. Need no reply;
- (62 @ 64). Relative to the Experiments making of the Coal Tar & ca.
29. We approve of your intended experiments with the Coal Tar-We last Season sent you 50 Barrels by way of Trial, and we may shortly expect to hear of your report upon the subject.
- Committee of Shipping  
Answer to  
Para. 65 and 66 as to  
Plans for Docks at Diamond Harbour.
30. We are by no means inclined to give our Assent to Works of such Magnitude as the Construction of Docks at Diamond Harbour before we receive.

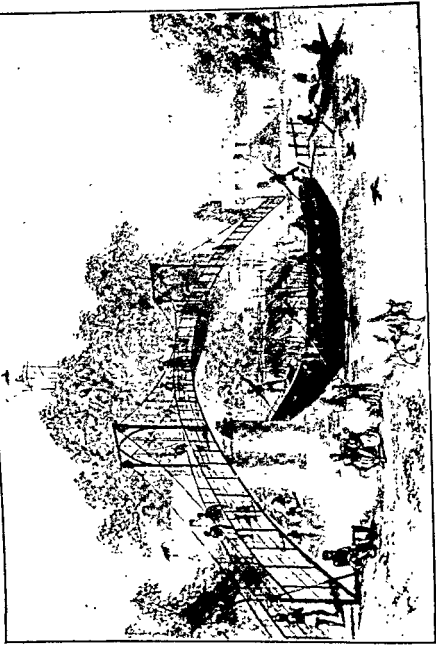


your particular Recommendations and the Utility and absolute Necessity of the Measure shall have been very clearly ascertained and pointed out to us.

- (67). Mentioning an Advance made to Mr Lacam of 5000 Rupees. 31. Needs no reply at present.
- (68). Mentioning that a more correct Copy of Mr Forester's Journey will be sent by the Ships of the Season. 32. Needs no reply.
- (69, 70). Natural History and transmitting Colonel Kyd's Report of the State of the Plants received from Europe for the Botanical Garden. 33. Mr Marsh's Letters to Lieutenant Colonel Kyd, containing a detail of several vegetable Articles, shall be submitted to the perusal of Sir Joseph Banks, as well as the report referred to in the 70th Paragraph.
- (71). State of the Treasury. 34. Needs no reply.
- Answer to the Letter in the Public Department  
dated 7th December 1789
- (Par. 1). Transmitting Cons. and Duplicate of Letters. 35. Needs no reply.
- (2). Remittance to China.

last, that proposals for only 18 Lacks for effecting this Remittance had been made to you ; we are nevertheless glad to find by your Letter of the 13th February that the Supra Cargoes will have no difficulty to make up any deficiency in their resources by Drafts upon you at a favorable rate of Exchange. In the issuing Certificates for the Sum subscribed, you acted very properly in giving a preference in point of date to such Persons as had deposited Company's Paper as a Security for the Performance of their Engagements.

- (3). Nabob of Arcot's representations respecting his Payments. 37. To be replied to in the Political Department.
- (4 & b). Augmentation of the Bombay Marine. 38. For the reasons stated in these Paras. we approve of your having authorized the Government of Bombay to augment their present Marine force, by the construction of a Frigate.
- (7, 8). Complaint of the Bombay Government against remittances of 6 Lacks made to them from Benares. 39. Altho' we are not able to discover from the Papers before us that the Remittance to Bombay from Benares in August 1739 of 6 Lacks of Rupees was contrary to the Engagement made by that Government with Naderous ;



Suspension Bridge over Tolley's Nullah.

Government of Bombay. At the same time we think it necessary to declare, injustice to Mr. Duncan, that not the smallest suspicion of improper Conduct in the transaction can rest upon him.

- (9 @ 12). Relative to Fort Marlborough. 40. These Paragraphs will be replied to in a Separate Letter.
- (13, 14). Transmitting Minute of Lord Cornwallis's proposing a Reduction of Interest of 6 Per Cent. 41. We have already signified our Approbation of Your Proceedings on the Points here referred to.
- (15). Advising the resignation of Mr. Shore. 42. Needs no reply.
- (16). Transmitting a Memorial from Mr. Purling. 43. As it appears by Subsequent Advices that Mr. Purling is appointed Collector at Rungpore we think it unnecessary to give any answer to his Memorial—but as Mr. Purling is one of the Oldest Servants upon your Establishment his pretensions for a more beneficial Situation will no doubt be considered by you if opportunity should offer, and his conduct in his present situation should meet the approbation of your Government.
- (17). Advising the resignation of Mr. Plowden. } 44. Need no reply.
- (18). Relative to Samples of Coins &c. }
- (19). Repair of the Bridge over Tolley's Nullah. 45. We are advised in your Subsequent dispatch of the 13th February last of the Plan for repairing the Belvidere Bridge having failed of Success. We have read the Correspondence that passed upon this occasion with the Attornies of Mrs. Tolly.

with respect to the Building a new Bridge ; but as we consider this Bridge as private property any repairs that may be necessary to make thereto, must not be at the Company's expence.

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| <p>(20). Relief afforded the Inhabitants of the 24 Pergunnahs.</p> | <p>46. A perusal of Mr. Graham's Letter referred to in this Para. has convinced us of the Policy and humanity of the relief afforded to a number of Inhabitants of the interior parts of the 24 Pergunnahs &amp;ca. during the late Scarcity. It gives us great pleasure to learn that the appearance of Plenty throughout the Country has rendered a continuance of this Indulgence no longer necessary.</p> |
| <p>(21). Botanical Garden.</p>                                     | <p>47. Already replied to.</p>  |
| <p>(22). State of Treasury.</p>                                    | <p>48. Needs no reply.</p>  |

Answer to the Letter in the Public Department  
dated 6th January 1790

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|---|---|
| <p>(Par. 1). Transmitting Consultations and Duplicate of Letters.</p> | <p>49. Needs no reply.</p>  |
| <p>(2). Remittance to China.</p>                                      | <p>50. Already replied to.</p>  |
| <p>(3) @ 8). Remittance to Fort St. George.</p>                       | <p>51. We have already expressed our approbation of the Contract entered into with Mr. George Tyler for the delivery of Rice at Fort St. George and Tellicherry. The Subsequent Agreement with this Gentleman for paying into the Madras Treasury the proceeds of certain Consignments of Rice to the amount of Pagodas 1,10,000, has also received our approbation. You will render a most acceptable Ser-</p> |

vice to your Employers, if, agreeably to the intimation in the 8th Para. you shall be able to make your Remittances to that Settlement without being obliged to export the circulating Specie of Bengal or without being subject to the loss arising from Money *being taken up there for Bills* on your Presidency at a disadvantageous rate of Exchange. We likewise approve of the further Remittance to Madras, and of your Engagements for Supplying that Settlement with Rice as advised in the 4th and 5th Paras : of your Letter of the 13th February last.

- (9). Refusal of the Bombay Government to accept the remittance made to them from Benares. 52. Already replied to.
- (10, 11). Relative to Fort Marlboro. 53. These Paras : will be replied to in a Separate Letter.
- (12). Relative to Prince of Wales's Island. 54. We have already assigned our reasons why we shall postpone giving you any directions respecting Prince of Wales's Island at present.
- (13). Advising that Mr. Stuart had made choice of the Presidency of the Board of Revenue—and Mr. Speke's appointment to that of the Board of Trade. 55. It will naturally occur to you, on the receipt of our advices appointing Mr. William Cooper to be a Member of your Council, that this Gentleman should preside at the Board of Revenue, a Department in which he must be peculiarly qualified. We do not mean to convey the most distant reflection upon Mr. Stuart, whose employment hitherto has been principally in

the commercial line and in which we thought it most for our Interest that he should continue.

- (14, 15). Advising the resignation of Messrs. Evelyn and Macdowal. 56. Needs no reply.
- (16). Request that the Security Bonds given for the return of Mr Bruere's Native Servants may be cancelled. 57. We shall comply with the request in this Paragraph.
- (17). Repair of the Dispensary. 58. The Proceedings to which you have referred us for information of the Grounds on which you have entered into Engagements of Contract with Mr H. Darley for Buildings and Repairs at the Dispensary, are satisfactory. By your Consultations of the 2nd October 1789, the probable Expence of making the Drains and Alterations is estimated at Sicca Rupees 5,763—The Contract concluded on the 10th December following with Mr. Darley was at Sicca Rupees 8,425. We imagine the variation from the Estimate was on account of the additional works proposed in the Engineers Letter of the 24th Octr.
- (18). Pension to Mrs Beleart. 59. In the 150th Para. of our Letter of the 28th April 1790, we expressed our acquiescence in the Pension of 40 Rupees Per Menssem to the late Mr Lewis Beleart, and we now think proper to confirm your late Resolution for extending this Allowance to Mrs Beleart and her Family, so long as she shall remain a Widow.

- (19). Transmitting a complete Copy of Call's Atlas, and Lieutenant Rind's Routes &ca. 60. Needs no reply.
- (20). Relative to Mr. Lazam's Complaint against the Committee for Investigating his Claims on account of New Harbour. 61. This Paragraph will come under our Consideration when we shall determine on your final report on this Subject, transmitted to us by the Chesterfield.
- (21). Referring to Report Survey of the Stationary. 62. Needs no reply.
- (22). Transmitting Indent for Coining Implements. 63. The Articles indented for, for the use of the Mint will be sent on the Ships of this Season.
- (23). State of Treasury 64. Needs no reply.

Answer to the Letter in the Public Department  
dated 13th February 1790

- (Par. 1). Transmitting Duplicate of former Letter, and Consultations for January. 66. Needs no reply.
- (2). Relative to the China Remittance. 66. Already replied to.
- (3). Relative to the recovery of the Treasure from the Wreck of the Vansittart and to Captain Canning's detention of 11 Chests as Salvage. 67. Will be replied to hereafter.
- (4, 5). Supplies of Money and Rice to Fort St. George. }  
(6, 7). Relative to the Establishment of a Communication by Dawk with the West of India. } 63. Already replied to.



- (8) Relative to Prince of Wales's Island 69 To be replied to hereafter
- (9) New Settlement at the Andamans 70 We have perused the Letter herein referred to from Captain Archibald Blair But as we may shortly expect to receive the Report of Commodore Cornwallis, we shall not at present give you any directions upon the Subject of the New Settlement at the Andamans
- (10) Mentions the return of Mr Richard Johnson }  
 (11) Advising the resignation of Mr Robert Adair } 71. Need no reply.
- (12) Regulations to be observed by Civil Servants resigning the Service 72 We have perused the Regulations established on the 20th January last, for the Civil Servants resigning the Service, and approve thereof
- (13) Advising of Mr Nathl Bateman having proceeded to England 73 Needs no reply.
- (14 @ 16) Mr Auriol's Memorial 74 We have perused Mr Auriol's Memorial referred to in these Paragraphs, and the Documents thereunto annexed and upon Consideration of all the Circumstances we cannot doubt but that he was fully entitled to be reinstated to his former Situation of Under Secretary We very much approve of his forbearance and acquiescence in the Resolution of your Board of the 3rd Jany 1787, and direct that you embrace the very first opportunity of employing him in such a Situation as his Standing and Abilitys entitled him to.

- (17). Advising that the Report of the Committee for investigating Mr. Lacam's Claim, on Acct. of New Harbour is completed, and under consideration. of the Amount advanced Mr. Lacam in India, and recommending a further advance of 1000£ in England.
- (18). Relative to the Repair of the Bridge over Tolley's Canal.
- (19). Relative to the Commission from the High Court of Admiralty for the Examination of Witnesses in the Suit relative to the Chinsurah Prize Money.
- (20). Transmitting a Letter from Colonel Kyd describing the Contents of 2 Boxes addressed to Sir Geo : Young and Mr. Hastings and also transmitting Samples of Silk and Cotton.
- (21). State of Treasury.
75. The former part of this Pa[ra.] needs no reply at present but we have agreeable to your recommendation advanced Mr. B. Lacam the further Sum of One thousand Pounds, to be accounted for by him when his Case shall be finally determined on by us.
76. Already replied to.
77. Need no reply.

78. We have permitted Mr. Francis Perry to proceed to India as a free Mariner on the usual conditions.

79. We enclose you the London Gazette of the 4th Instant, by which you will perceive that on that day one of His Majest's Messengers dispatched by the Right Hon'ble. Allenyn Fitzherbert, His Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at the Court of Spain arrived at the office of His Grace the Duke of Leeds His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs with the Catholic King's Ratification of the Convention Signed the 28th October last for terminating the differences which had arisen with that Court; which was exchanged with Mr. Fitzherbert against His Majesty's Ratifications on

the 22nd November last, at the Palace of the Escorial by His Catholic Majesty's Minister.

We are,

Your Affectionate Friends,

W. Devaynes/J. Manship/John Roberts/  
George Tatem/Lionel Darell/Paul Le  
Mesurier/Jno. Townson/D. Scott/Wm;  
Money/Thos. T. Metcalfe/Thos. Parry/  
W. Ewer/Chas. Mills/Thos. Fitzhugh/Hugh  
Inglis/Abram Roberts.

London

the 15th Decr. 1790.

# 19

## LETTER DATED 4 MARCH 1791

*Situation on the Coast and war with Tipu.*

OUR Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

The situation of our affairs upon the Coast, and the War with Tippoo Sultan have been under the consideration of the Hon'ble House of Commons and we send you enclosed their resolutions upon the subject. You will take the earliest opportunity of making the same generally known, and you will not fail to communicate the same with the utmost expedition to our Residents at Poonah and Hyderabad.

We are,

Your Affectionate Friends,

Step. Lushington/W. Devaynes/J. Manship/  
Thos Cheap/George Tatem/Jn. Townson/  
Thos. Parry/Lionel Darell/T. Pattle/  
John Roberts/Thos. Fitzhugh/W. Ewer/  
Wm. Money/Robt. Thornton/Paul Le  
{Duplicate per Dutton} Mesurier.

London

the 4th of March 1791

{Duplicate per Dutton}

*Enclosure\**

Resolutions

1. "That it appears to this House that the attacks made by Tippoo Sultan on the lines of Travancore, on the 29th of December, 1789, the

\* The enclosure is not available. However, the report of the House of Commons debate on March 1791 contains three Resolutions regarding the war with Tipu Sultan. Though there is no definite proof it seems very likely that these were the Resolutions with the Court's letter.

6th of March, and 15th of April, 1790, were unwarranted and unprovoked infractions of the treaty entered into at Mangalore, on the 10th day of March 1784."

2. "That the conduct of the governor-general of Bengal, in determining to prosecute with vigour the war against Tippoo Sultan, in consequence of his attack on the territories of the rajah of Travancore, was highly meritorious."

3. "That the treaties entered into with the Nizam on the 1st of June, and with the Mahrattas on the 7th of July, 1790, are wisely calculated to add vigour to the operations of war, and to promote the future tranquility of India; and that the faith of the British nation is pledged for the due performance of the engagements contained in the said treaties."

20

## LETTER DATED 11 MARCH 1791

*Lists of new writers and free mariners—dak service—stationery—  
Free School in Calcutta.*

OUR Governor General and Council at Fort William to *Send*

4. We have appointed the following Writers for your Presidency in the part of the number agreed to be sent this Season, their rank will be advised by a future conveyance: Andrew Seton, Henry Emanuel Sutterloh, Richard Ahmuty, James Stuart, John Ryley.

5. We have permitted the following Persons to proceed to India as Free Mariners Vizt. Quintin Craufurd, Michael McNamara, John Willemott, George Wishart Maxwell, Alexand. Cumming, Richard Thomas Honan, Andrew Waugh, Robert Burrington, John Tucker, James Nelson, Thomas Reed, William Wright Bampton, Edward Potbury, Henry Barber, John Burn, Robert Pavin, Charles Forbes (Abroad), Colin Mackenzie (Do.), John Brooks Sampson, Roderick Macleod, William Sanders, Robert Hayley Judd, William Frizwell, Robert Cuthbert, Hugh Durham, Thomas Mathews, Hon'ble Gerard Turnour, John Pavin, Charles Connolly, Andrew Brown, Roderick Robertson; and we have permitted Mr. Robert Pock to return to India as a Free Mariner under the licence formerly granted him.

6. We have permitted Mr. John Sharp to proceed to Bengal and remain three years for the purpose of settling his private Affairs.

7. We have permitted John Murdock formerly the Company's Carpenter at Calcutta to return thither and to remain there three years to settle his Affairs.

8. Having thought fit to appoint Messrs. John Harrison Junr. George Cuming, Alexander Bruce, Charles Edward Pigou, Thomas Freeman and Thomas Kuyck Van Mierop to be a Select Committee of Supra Cargos, with full powers to transact the Company's business in China, we direct that you address the said Committee whenever our Affairs shall render it necessary for you to Correspond with our Servants at Canton.

9. We have appointed Messrs. William Fitzhugh, Richard Hall, Samuel Peach, Hugh Parkin, Thomas Samuel Parry and George Smith to be Supra Cargos under the said Select Committee.

10. It appearing by an Inspection of the Logs Books that George or John Warden proceeded to India in that Ship from Lisbon and was entered as run at Bombay on the 25th July 1787. As the said Mr. Warden went to India without our Licence we direct that particular enquiry be made respecting him, and should he be found within the Limits of your Settlement, you must send him to England by the first opportunity.

Answer to the Letter in the Public Department  
dated the 12th\* April 1790.

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|---|--|
| (Para. 1). Transmitting Con-<br>sultations & Duplicates<br>of former advices.   | } 11. Need to Reply.   |
| (2). Acknowledging receipt of<br>Court's Order of 19th<br>August.   |  |
| (3). Relative to China Remit-<br>tances,  | 12. Already replied to.  |
| (4 & 5). Remittance of Gold<br>Bullion to Fort St. George   | 13. As a matter of necessity and<br>to answer the exigency of the<br>moment, we do not object<br>to your late consignment<br>of Gold Bullion as part of<br>your remittance to Fort St.<br>George. We entertain however<br>very serious apprehensions<br>of the consequences of dimi-<br>nishing in so great a degree,<br>the quantity of your circulating<br>Specie, some more eligible<br>mode we trust will be found<br>for effecting your remittance<br>in future, until it shall be finally<br>determined what Measures<br>ought to be taken for securing<br>the regular quotas from our<br>Tributaries in the Carnatic<br>towards the general defence<br>and until by the adoption of<br>salutary regulations, the cur-<br>rent Expenses of the Madras<br>Government shall be defrayed<br>by its own natural resources. |
| (6) Relative to the demand<br>on the Government of<br>Pegu for advances made<br>at Madras on account the<br>Ship Thundurah. | } 14. Already replied to.  |
| (7 & 8). Relative to the Con-<br>tract with Mr. Beanland.   |  |

- (9). Referring to the Advocate General's Opinion on the subject of the discovery of some Counterfeit Gold Coin in circulation at Bombay.
- (10). Relative to the remittance made by Mr. Duncan to Bombay.
- (11). Supply to Bombay
- (12). Advising that Arrangements have been made for the Dispatch of two Weekly mails by the Dawk between Calcutta, & Fort St. George & Bombay.
- (13). Advising of an intended dispatch to Europe in August.
- (14, 15). Relative to Prince of Wales's and the Andaman Islands.
- (16, 17). Referring to the Court a Claim on Mr. Peter Moore for salary overdrawn.
- (18, 19). Transmitting the Report of the committee appointed to investigate Mr. Lacam's Claims, and Lord Cornwallis's Minute thereon.
15. Needs no Reply.
16. Replied to in the last Dispatches.
17. You did right in availing yourselves of the offer made to you for effecting a Remittance to Bombay to the amount of Rupees 1,90,000 as stated in your proceedings of the 10th February and 24th March last.
18. We very much approve of the arrangements stated in these Paragraphs.
19. Needs no Reply.
20. We shall defer any Orders on these subjects for the reasons stated in the 22nd & 70th Paragraphs of our last Letter in this Department.
21. We shall demand this Sum of Mr. Moore.
22. Under Consideration.

(20). Transmitting Mr. Prager's Affidavit relative to the purchase of Diamonds.

(21). Transmitting Report on damaged Stationary.

23. Needs no Reply.

24. From the information communicated in this Paragraph respecting the Produce of the different Articles of Stationary adverted to in your Letter of the 6th January 1790, we cannot forbear expressing our surprize and displeasure at not being furnished with Musters thereof, having in our Letter of the 24th February 1786 directed that Samples be always returned us when the Stationary proves bad, which having been omitted we have been totally at a loss to determine on any measures it might have been proper to have adopted on the present occasion.

25. The whole of the Articles stated in the Report transmitted us to be of inferior Quality, should have been returned, as upon proving worse than the standard samples, we might have insisted on the Person who supplied them taking them back, and repaying to the Company the Cost with Interest and all Charges, whereby the loss which must have attended the sale of them in India, would have been prevented.



24th February 1786, being duly attended to, which from the recent Complaints we have had from our other Presidencies, we cannot but consider no less necessary than proper, well in justice to the Persons supplying the Stationary as for our own satisfaction.

27. We are happy to learn that New Buildings which have been lately Erecting for the reception of Stationary are completed, hoping that agreeably to your expectations the Money expended on them will be found to have been well applied, in being the means of effecting a very considerable reduction in in the future expence to the Company for this Article at your Presidency.

28. The Supply of Stationary we have ordered to be shipped for your Presidency this Season is nearly the same as was sent in the last, but we trust that so large a supply will not be necessary in future, expecting that by the means taken to check all improper Demands of this Article and to preserve it from damage, we shall upon the receipt of your next Indent find great decrease in the annual Issues thereof.

(22). Establishment of a Free School, 29. We have perused the plan for the Establishment of a Free School in Calcutta for the Education of Orphans and other indigent Children, entered on the Consultations of the 20th January 1790, and approve of

the assistance you have agreed to afford to this humane Institution.

- (23). Representation from the Houses of Agency in Calcutta on the scarcity of the circulating specie.
- (24, 25). Re-establishment of the Old Guards.
- (26 @ 28). Transmitting Draft of a Bill for the relief of Insolvent Debtors.
- (29). Colonel Murray's reply to the Accountant General's Observations on this Proposition relative to the Certificate Debt.
- (30 @ 32). returning the Commission of the Admiralty Court for examining Witnesses in the cause of the Chinsurah Prize Money executed.
- (33). State of Treasury.
30. This Paragraph will be replied to hereafter.
31. We have read the representations from the Superintendants of the Police referred to in these Paragraphs upon the necessity of re-establishing the Old Guards of Buxaues and Seedevals that were formerly stationed at the outlets of Calcutta and approve of your resolution in Consequence. You will inform us whether the Taxes levied upon the Inhabitants for the purpose of supporting these Guards be adequate to the expence.
32. Will be considered hereafter.
33. This at present requires no answer, and what we may think it necessary to say in the subject will be transmitted on our future Letters relative to the Indian Finances.
34. Need no Reply.

We are

Your affectionate Friends,

Step. Lushington/W. Devaynes/J. Manship/  
T. Pattle/Paul Le Mesurier/Chas. Mills/  
Thos. Parry/Abram Roberts/Jn. Townson/  
W. Ewer/Simon Frazer/John Roberts/  
Thos. Fitzhugh.

London  
the 11th March 1791.  
[Per Kent]

# LETTER DATED 30 MARCH 1791

*Deserters from ships—China remittance—cost of war with Tipu—Andamans—currency—contract for stationery—dak service—Botanical Garden—Nizamat stipend to Saiyid Riza Ali Khan—investment.*

OUR Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. Our last letter in the Public Department was dated the 11th March 1791 we shall now reply to your last Dispatch in this Department of the 31st July 1790 received by the Houghton.

Answer to the Letter in the Public Department  
Dated 31st July 1790.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| (Par. 1). Transmitting Duplicate of last Letter.                                    | } 2. Need no reply.   |
| (2) Advising the receipt of Court's Letter.   |   |
| (3,4). Answer to Court's letter of 2nd Decr. 1789.....                              |   |
| (5). Respecting the Courts Orders as to persons deserting from the Company's Ships. | 3. We approve of your proceedings in consequence of our orders of the 2nd Decr. 1789, respecting persons deserting from the Company's Ships, and direct that you persevere in your endeavours for carrying those orders into effectual Execution.   |
| (6). Shall proceed to fresh Subjects.....   | 4. Needs no reply.  |
| (7 to 11). China remittance....   | 5. We have already in our letter of the 15th Decr. last expressed our approbation of your exertions for furnishing the necessary Supplies to our Treasury at Canton. Under the Circumstances that have been stated, you did right in declining a compliance with Mr Redhead's application for cancelling a part |
| (15, 16). and adjustment of the agreement with Messrs. Peice & Co.                  |   |

of his Engagements for effecting these remittances. And you acted very providently in the Latitude given to our Supra Cargoes to draw upon you, at a short sight, for any sums *they might be able to procure* for Bills on the Calcutta Treasury, in the event of their not receiving the whole of the Cash Consignments from Europe. We have reason however, to hope, from the State of their Treasury, that the Supra Cargoes will have no occasion to avail themselves of this liberty of drawing upon you, notwithstanding the sum of £70,000 was at Fort St. George, taken out of the Ships destined for Canton, as mentioned in the 15th and 16th Paragraphs.

6. The manner in which you have agreed to liquidate a part of the balance due from the firm of *Price and Co. on account* remittances to Canton for 1787/8 and 1788/9 (as advised in the 10th Para) by accepting and cancelling Bills to the Amount of £5,067-18-6 which the Supra Cargoes and drawn upon us in favour of the House, has met with our approbation.

- (12@19). Supplies to Fort St. George. 7. We cannot too highly commend your Exertions in providing the necessary Funds to enable the Madras Government to prosecute with vigour the war into which (as you very justly observed) we have been *forced* with Tipoo Sultaun. In the perusal of your proceedings on this subject we felt for your

embarrassment on account of the Bills to the amount of Rs. 22,00,000 that were drawn upon you from thence in the Month of May, payable at 30 Days Sight, but we were soon relieved from our anxiety, on finding that from the indulgence of the Bill holders, and from the judicious temporary measures that were adopted, your difficulties were surmounted.

8. You have further manifested your Zeal for the Company's Welfare in your endeavors to support the Credit of the Madras Government by empowering them to draw upon you for the Interest of their Bond Debt. With respect to the Loan of 5 Lacks of Pagodas at an Interest of 10 P. Cent P. Annum, which they were endeavoring to negotiate in July last, to enable them to establish the necessary Funds for the exigencies of the War, we observe, with concern, that the advanced rate of Interest was not a sufficient inducement to Persons to come forward in order to complete the same and nothing but the extreme urgency of the Case could incline us to acquiesce in increasing the rate of Interest to 12 P. Cent., in Order to insure this indispensable supply.

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|--|---------------------|
| (20). Extension of the period allowed to Mr. Arthur Mair, for the delivery of Rice at Fort St. George according to his Contract. | } 9. Need no reply. |
| (21). Concerning an additional supply of Rice received at Fort St. George.   |                     |

- (22). Concerning the return of Duties that were levied at Madras on a quantity of Opium landed there by Messrs Lambert and Ross for the purpose of re-exportation.
10. We have read the Letter from Messrs Lambert & Ross referred to in this Para. on the subject of Duties levied at Madras, on a quantity of Opium, that had been landed at that Presidency for the purpose of re-exportation, and approve of the grounds upon which you recommended that the whole of the duties levied should be returned allowing the same rule to operate in all Cases of a similar nature.
- (23). Advising of an allowance being made to the 1st and 2nd Officers of a Country Ship on account of their evidence being required at Fort St. George upon the Trial of a Manilla Man for an attempt to assassinate three Europeans on board that Ship.
11. For the sake of public Justice we approve of the allowances made to the Officers of a Country Ship on account of their Evidence being required at Fort St. George, upon the trial of Manilla Man for an attempt to assassinate three Europeans on board that ship.
- (24). Few Circumstances to notice in the Public Department respecting Bombay.
- (25). An Opinion of the Advocate general forwarded to Bombay at the request of the Govr. and Council &ca.
12. Need no reply.
- (26). The building of a Frigate at Bombay Countermanded.
13. For the reasons stated in this Para. we approve of the directions sent to Bombay for not proceeding further in the building of a Frigate at that Presidency.

- (27). Advising the completion of a Remittance to Bombay.
- (28). Concerning the return of a Volunteer Detachment from Fort Marlbro'.
- (29). Mentions the arrival of the *Oxford* at Fort Marlbro' with the Recruits.
- (30). Other Subjects relative to Fort Marlbro' will be advised in a subsequent dispatch.
- (31 @ 33). Prince of Wales's Island and the new Settlement of Andamans.
- (34). Concerning the Collectors of Revenue &c. being authorized to discharge the Interest on Bonds held by Persons at a distance from Calcutta.
- (Para 33 @ 36). Publication of the Governor General and Council's assurances of punctuality in discharging the annual Interest on Bonds, Certificates & Interest thereon—
14. Need no reply.
15. We shall postpone giving you any directions relative to Prince of Wales's Island<sup>1</sup>, and the new Settlement on the Andamans, until after the receipt of Captain Kyd's Survey and Investigation mentioned in the 33rd Para. and the Report of Commodore Cornwallis.
16. We do not see any objection to the measure of authorizing the Collectors of Revenue within the Provinces & the Residents at Benares & Lucknow, to discharge the annual Interest becoming due upon such of the Company's Bonds as are held by Persons not resident at Calcutta, under such rules and limitations as will effectually prevent double payments on the same account.
17. Although the rate of remittance allowed by the 3rd Article of the Resolutions here noticed for the Military Arrear Bonds of the other Presidencies is higher than that you had determined to allow on the 31st

respecting the subscriptions of Military arrear Bonds Certificates not disposed of and Interest to be allowed on those issued after the 1st June 1790, Vizt. 8 P. Cent.

March 1788, and by your 5th Resolution you have thought it necessary to raise the Interest of Certificates issued after the 1st June last to the former rate of 8 P. Cent yet considering the Circumstances that have given rise to these variations we do not object to your Proceedings therein—We approve of your other Resolutions stated in these paragraphs.

- (37 @ 40). Concerning a Forgery of one of the Company's Certificates.
18. These Paras are under the consideration of the Company's Solicitor.
- (41, 42). Regulations established on the suggestion of the Accountant General for the future issuing Promissory Notes & recommendation of Mr. Larkins attention to the business—and desiring some Paper & Copper Plates and Presses may be sent from Europe and one or two Persons to keep the Plates in repair—or Copper Plate Prints for the Notes according to a form transmitted.
19. We approve of the Regulations here noticed, and concur with you in Opinion of the Zeal and attention shewn by Mr. Larkins in this business. Upon considering of the two different Modes you have suggested, in respect to the execution & supply of the Blank Promissory Notes, we have determined on having them Printed in England, & sending you annually such quantity as may be required this Mode appearing to us equally as secure as the other and being unquestionably by much the least expensive.
20. An order is given for the manufacturing of a considerable quantity of the proper kind of Paper, bearing the Company's water Mark, & having got in readiness a well executed Plate for Printing off the Notes as soon as we are furnished with the Paper (of which we are in daily expectation) you may expect to receive, agreeably



to your desire, by the Ships of the present Season, a sufficient Quantity for two years' expenditure and which for the greater security will be forwarded in the Company's Packet.

21. To prevent disappointment to you in this respect, which we were apprehensive might have been the case had we waited the making of a new mould for the Paper, we have given directions for its being made off the same mould as the Bill of Exchange Paper, which though of a size somewhat smaller than the note you have transmitted us is quite large enough to admit of the Notes being printed thereon, without in any degree contracting the blank spaces or crowding the print, and will therefore we are of opinion be found of a more convenient size. And in addition to the Water Marks & check on the face of the Notes, we have had a plate made for putting a check scroll at the back of the names of the respective Officers who may be appointed to sign & issue them, conceiving it would be a further security & improvement.

(43 @ 45). Concerning the defective state of the Currency—referring to a specimen of the new Coinage—and reward to Lieutts. Humphreys and Golding.

22. We highly approve of the attention that has been paid to the defective state of the Currency in Bengal. We have received the Specimen of your new coinage, by the *Houghton* which have [*sic*] been sent to the Officers of His Majesty's Mint, whose report on

the assay will be forwarded to you as usual. Having perused Lord Cornwallis's Minute of the 21st July last, we acquiesce in the reward that has been given to Lieutts. Humphreys and Golding, for their assistance in superintending the construction of the machinery for the different Mints, and inventing and executing some part of it, and particularly the Milling Instrument.

(46). Stationary Contract.

23. Having perused the various Proceedings you have referred us to relative to the subject matter of this Paragraph we find the strongest confirmation of the impropriety suggested in our Letter of the 28th of April last, of your making it a condition with the Contractor for stationary that he should have the care of our consignments of this article and be the issuer thereof, and we trust therefore that in compliance with the orders in our said Letter, the stationary consigned to you from hence last Season, has been put in charge of some confidential servant and proper measures taken for annulling the new Contract entered into with Mr. Campbell,

(47-48). Encrease in the Dawk Establishment.

24. We have read the Letters from the Post Master General dated 28th April 1790—suggested some alterations in the Establishment of the Dawk stages between Calcutta and Bellasore & as we find the additional expence is not considerable whilst

the Journey between those places is thereby made much sooner we acquiesce in your approval of the alteration proposed.

25. We are pleased with the information that the Dawk between Masulipatam and the West of India is completely established, under the immediate controul of our own Officers, as the Communication, both public and private between Calcutta, Hydrabad, Poona and Bombay must be thereby greatly facilitated. We expect to be advised annually of the Charges of your Post Office Department, & the revenue arising therefrom to the Company.

- (49, 50). Concerning a Ship to be freighted with Provisions &ca., for Botany Bay.
26. Under the Restrictions you have mentioned we see no objection to the permission you have granted to Messrs Lambert Ross and Biddulph to freight a ship with Provisions &ca, to Botany Bay. We trust it will prove a seasonable relief to that Colony. We have not heard any thing from Government on the proposition of those Gentlemen, referred to in the 50th Paragraph.

- (51-52). Advising that Lord Grenwill had desired Lord Cornwallis to render assistance to the Commanders of 2 Frigates fitted out by His Catholic Majesty for the purpose of making a Voyage round the World.
27. Need no Reply.

- (53). Refers to a drawing of the Teak Tree &ca.....
- (54). Concerning the Continuance of the allowance to the family of Ihteram-ud-Dowla, out of the Nabobs Stipend.
- (55). Mentions the offer of a Loan of a Lack of Rupees from Munny Begum, which was declined.
- (56). Transmitting part of the Correspondence deposited in the Office of the Resident at Benares.
28. This Para: and the Drawings &ca, therein referred to will be submitted to the Inspection of Sir Joseph Banks.
29. We see no objection to the Instructions that have been given to the Paymaster of the Nizamut Stipends, relative to the continuance of the Salary claimed by Syed Reza Aly cawn for the use of the Descendants of the late Ihteram-ud-Dowlah Uncle to the present Nabob of Bengal.
30. Need no reply.

31. After the cause which has produced so large a Deduction from the Sum originally appropriated for the provision of the Investment 1790 shall no longer exist, and after you shall be again able to furnish the whole Investment from the surplus Revenues without drawing Bills upon the Company, agreeably to the Directions in the Commercial Department it is by no means our intention to limit the amount of the Investment to Ninety Lacks of Rupees. On the contrary whenever the return of peace shall enable you so to do, we rely on your utmost exertions, for the reasons that have been already assigned in the commercial Letter to provide annually Goods to the full amount of the original appropriation for the Investment 1790, until we shall give you Directions to the contrary.

32. We direct that all the maps, Charts, & Plans at your Settlement, and the Subordinates, be sent to England by the first Conveyance, except such as are printed; and to facilitate your making Copies of such as you may think proper to keep, we send you some Oil Paper for tracing—you will send a list of such as you may for that Purpose think absolutely necessary to keep till a future Occasion of sending the Originals to us, which you will do as soon as possible we desire that the Reverend Mr. Smith's Journal when he accompanied Colonel Updon to Poonah be sent us by the first Conveyance.

- (51). Advising of having allowed another Officer to the Ranger employed on a Secret Expedition. 35. Needs no reply.

Answer to such parts of the Letter in the Commercial Department of the 7th December 1789, as are in the Public Department

- (Para. 23). Mentioning that a Person has been directed to attend the opening of Proposals for supplying the King's Ships with Provisions by Contract. 36. Needs no reply.

- (24). Relative to the rate of Exchange for Bills drawn on the Navy Board by Commodore Cornwallis. 37. We are of Opinion that you fixed a fair rate of Exchange for the periods at which the Commodore intimated his intention of drawing Bills upon the Navy and Victualling Boards and make no doubt but that he was enabled to procure as much Money as the public Service required on those terms.

- (25). Referring to Cons. for an Account of Stores supplied His Majesty's Ships. 38. In respect to the different Marine and Ordnance Stores supplied by the Naval and Military Storekeepers for the use of His Majesty's Ships we think you ought to have received Bills upon the Navy Board from the Commodore for the Amount charged at the lowest rate of Exchange at which he had been enabled to take up Money from Individuals.

39. We therefore direct that you pay a due regard to this observation in future and that you transmit us by the first convenient opportunity which may offer after the receipt of this Letter, a regular Account of all Stores and Provisions

Answer to such parts of the Letter in the Commercial Department dated the 5th November 1789, as are in the Public Department

- (Para: 44). Pension to Mr. Mullens.
33. We will not object in the present Instance to the Pension of 150 Rupees a Month to Mr. Edward Mullings lately an Assistant in the Export Warehouse. But no similar Allowances are to be granted without our previous approbation. The various duties that have been performed by Mr. Mullins, for so many years appear to be no other than what naturally belong to the Station of Covenanted Servants of the Rank of Writers and it is in this and in a similar manner, We wish to see the Writers employed, that they may thus acquire a progressive knowledge of our Affairs in their various Departments agreeably to the Ideas we have lately suggested in the 11th & 12 Paras of our Letter in the Public Department of the 19th March 1790.
- (49). Advising of the Commencement of the Allowance to the Officers of His Majesty's Squadron as directed by Court's Orders of 22nd Dec. 1786.
34. We have paid due attention to the subject of these Paras and approve of the Steps taken by your Government for the Accommodation of His Majesty's Squadron in respect to the supplying of Money to the Commodore of any part of His Majesty's Ships as may be at either of the Presidencies and the mode adopted for the safety of such Stores and Provisions that may be provided for the use of the Squadron. And we direct you to give every Assistance in your Power to His Majesty's Squadron advising us from time to time of your Proceedings.
- (50). Relative to the mode of supplying His Majesty's Squadron with Money and taking care of Stores.

- (13). Transmitting Statement of Marine Charges 1788/89 with Letter from the Marine Paymaster pointing out reductions on the proceeding Year's Charges.
45. By the Statement here refeaaed to, it appears that the Marine Charges of your Establishment in the first year of the new Management of the Marine Department have under gone a very inconsiderable reduction, occasioned by the increased Allowances given to the Officers *Superintending* it. We rely however on your exertions to keep the Expences of this Department within the most economical bounds.

Answer to such parts of the Letter in the Commercial Department of the 13th February 1790, as are in the Public Department

- (Para. 16). Relative to the Construction of a Dock for the Pilot Schooners.
46. Already replied to.

Answer to such parts of the Letter in the Commercial Department dated the 12th April 1790, as are in the Public Department

- (Para. 14). Referring to Cons. for application made by the Agent of the Commander of the King's Squadron for Stores &ca, and for the Quantity supplied.
47. In reply to this Para. we have only to refer you to the directions contained in the 34th Para of this Letter.

- (15). Advising of having ordered a Decked Boat to attend the Squadron at the request of the Commodore for the purpose of examining unfrequented Harbours.
48. The ready attention paid by you, to the representation from the Commodore, of the utility of employing a Decked Boat to attend the Squadron deserves our Commendation, and we trust that when the Service shall be over, for which She has been engaged, you will take care to dispose of her to the best advantage possible.

- (16, 17). Advising of having taken up the Warren Hastings, Country Ship to
49. Need no reply.

- 
- that have already been furnished for the service of the Squadron with an estimate of their value when supplied together with a Statement of such other Expences as have been defrayed by the Company, on account of His Majesty's Ships in India.
- (26). Mentioning that any demands for Moorings have been dispensed with to the Perseverance Frigate and Atalanta Sloop.
40. We approve of your not having charged 500 Rupees a Month to the Perseverance Frigate and Atalanta Sloop for the use of the Company's Mooring Chains as it is our desire that His Majesty's Ships may be accommodated with the use of the Chains.
- (27). Advising that certain Officers and Men of the Ariel are proceeding to England on the Busbridge.
41. Needs no reply.
- (28, 29). Relating to the Construction of a Dock for Pilot Vessels.
42. We agree in Opinion with you on the expediency of a small Dock for the service of our Pilot Schooners, and approve of the Orders you have given, and the Agreement entered into for Constructing the same.
- (30). Requesting that the Security Bonds given for the return of Native Servants, and who have returned, may be sent back to Bengal.
43. We shall comply with the request contained in this Paragraph, as also with that of the like import contained in the 16th Para of your Public Letter of the 6th January last.

Answer to such parts of the Letter in the Commercial Department of the 6th January 1790, as are in the Public Department

- (Para. 3). Advising of having consigned a Quantity of Gold Bullion to Fort St. George and of the reason for having determined to alter that mode of supply.
44. Already replied to.



## LETTER DATED 23 APRIL 1791

*List of persons permitted to proceed to the East Indies.*

TO Edward Hay Esqr., Secr'y to the Right Hon'ble the Governor General and Hon'ble the Council at Fort William in Bengal.

Sir,

Herewith you will receive a List of Persons permitted to proceed to the East Indies on board the Dublin.

I am with respect,

East India House  
London 23rd April  
1791.  
[Per Dutton]

Sir,  
Your most Obedient humble Servant,  
(Signed) Thos. Morton.  
Secretary.

*Enclosure*

List of Persons Permitted to proceed to the East Indies on the Dublin

Revd. Mr Thomas Clark	Chaplain	Bengal
Mr Robert William Fitzhugh	Free Mercht	do.
Thomas Stanhope Hollond	Writer	do.
Bennett Marley	Cap of Foot	do.
William Jno. Colley	Passenger	do.
William Allison	Assist. Surgeon	do.
William Goodlad	Native	do.
John Purin	do.	do.
Thomas Skarrow	Asst. Surgeon	Fort St. George
William Neate	Lieut of Foot	do.
Mrs. Mary Neate	do.'s Wife	do.
Mr James Davis	Cadet	do.
Thomas Coghlaui	do.	do.
Alexr Maclean	do.	do.
John Macpherson	do.	do.
Thomas Vaughan	do.	do.
Richard Charlton	do.	do.
Josiah Marshall	do.	do.
William Haughton	do.	do.
George Wahab	do.	do.
Fitz. Thomas Logan	do.	do.
Russell Manners	do.	do.
Sir John Cox Bart	do.	do.

carry Lord Cornwallis to the Coast, and that the Expence, incurred on this Account is inconsiderable.

- (18). Transmitting a Memorial from Mr. William Tomkins Deputy Master Attendant.
50. We have considered the Memorial of Mr. William Tomkins your Deputy Master Attendant, and in consideration of the testimony you give of his Character and conduct, we direct that he succeed to the Office of Master Attendant after Mr. George Allen.
- (19). Allotment of Waste Lands to the Disbanded Factory Guards at Malda.
51. We have read the Proceedings referred to in this Para, and approve of the Resolution you passed for the relief of the disbanded Sepoys, who composed the Factory Guard at Malda.

52. You will observe by our Letter in reply to your Commercial Advices that we have signified our acquiescence in the several additions that have been made to the Commercial Establishment, as we yielded with great reluctance to these Additional expences in the Commercial Department we think it necessary to direct that no further additions to the Settled Establishments in any of the Departments under your Government be made without our previous consent and approbation, except in Cases of the most evident and indispensable necessity.

We are,

Your Affectionate Friends,

W. Devaynes/Paul Le Mesurier/W. Ewer/  
Lionel Darell/Thos. Fitzhugh/George Tatem/  
Thos. Parry/Hugh Inglis/Chas. Mills/  
Simon Frazer/Thos. Cheap/Jacob Bosan-  
quet/Wm. Money/Abram Robarts,

London,  
the 30th March 1791.  
[Duplicate. Per Camden]

we do not find that they contain any matters of importance that have not been noticed in our Letters to our Deputy Governor and Council ; We therefore refer you to these Advices for our Sentiments on the several Points you have mentioned relative to the Affairs of the West Coast

5. Upon the late arrival of the Houghton from Bengal and Madras, We were kept for several days in the most anxious suspense on account of the Packets which contained the Company's Dispatches being of so extraordinary a bulk as not to admit of their being brought to Town by the usual and quick conveyance of a Post Chaise. We therefore direct that in future the General Letters in every Department together with their several enclosures (if not too Bulky) be put up in one or more portable Boxes with no other Letters or Papers, except such as may be addressed to His Majesty's Ministers, or to the Board of Commissioners for the Affairs of India; and that you give directions to the Commanders of the Ships upon their arrival at the first Port to send such Boxes or Packets to London in the most expeditious manner, unaccompanied by any bulky Package whatever-such Boxes or Packets must be marked for distinction in the following manner: The Company's Dispatches to be forwarded to the East India House with all possible expedition.

6. The following Persons are permitted to return to their rank in our Civil Service at your Presidency, Vizt. Messrs Samuel Charters, George Shee.

7. Mr. Robert Ker is appointed a Writer for your Presidency in further part of the number agreed to be sent last Season.

8. Mr. John Hamilton is appointed a Writer for your Presidency on the List of last Season, and we have permitted him to remain in England until next Season.

9. Mr. William Cowell whom we appointed a Writer for your Presidency on the list of last Season, has our leave to remain in England until next Season.

10. We have appointed the following Writers for your Presidency in further part of the number agreed to be sent this Season Vizt. Messrs John Stracey, Thomas Stanhope Holland, Charles Buller.

Mr Richard Leigh  
 William Barlow  
 William Chambers  
 James Rowles  
 Walter Batwell

do.	do.
do.	do.
do.	do.
do.	do.
do.	do.

East India House  
 the 23rd April 1791

(Signed) Thomas Morton:  
 Secry.

## 23

## LETTER DATED 6 MAY 1791

*Company's despatches to be forwarded expeditiously—persons allowed to return to their rank in civil service—Kyd's journey to Srinagar—rank to be taken by writers—war with Tipu.*

O UR Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. We wrote to you last in this Department under date of the 30th. March.

Answer to such parts of the Commercial Letter dated 31st July 1790. as are in the Public Department.

(Para. 39) Mentioning that the usual accommodation and Allowance had been granted to the Commander of the Ariel Sloop.

(Para. 40) Transmitting the Master Attendants Report of the Annual Survey of the River.

} 2. Need no reply.

(Para. 41) Mentioning that 5 Superannuated Pilots had been allowed Pensions.

3. We acquiesce in the Pensions you have granted to the Superannuated Men belonging to the Pilot Service.

Affairs of Fort Marlborough

4. It was our intention to have addressed to you a Separate Letter on the Affairs of Fort Marlborough but on a perusal of your Separate Consultations relative to that Residency

17. We have permitted Mr. Thomas Potenger to return to his rank in our Civil Service at your *Presidency*.

18. Messrs George Cumming David Vanderheyden and Joseph Fowke of your Civil Establishment have resigned the Company's Service.

19. We have appointed John Smith Burges Esqr. our Chairman Francis Baring Esqr our Deputy Chairman together with William Bensley, Thomas Cheap, Lionel Darell, John Hunter, John Manship Thomas Parry, John Roberts, George Tatem, and John Townson Esqrs to be the Committee of Secrecy for giving the necessary directions respecting the safety of the Company's Shipping; the Orders therefore of any three of the said Committee, respecting the same must be obeyed with the greatest punctuality.

20. Having appointed John Smith Burges Esqr. Chairman, Francis Baring Esqr Deputy Chairman, and John Manship Esqr during the present Direction to be a Secret Committee agreeably to, and for the purposes stated in the Acts of the 24th & 26th of His present Majesty. We hereby direct that all Orders and Instructions which you shall receive from our said Secret Committee be observed and Obeyed with the same punctuality and exactness as though they had been signed by thirteen or more Members of the Court of Directors conformably to the said Acts.

21. The Writers appointed for your Presidency last Season are to take Rank in our Service in the following order Vizt. Messrs Thomas Baring, Richd. William Pattle, James Money, John Thornhill, William Leycester, Andrew Seton, John Achmuty, William Cowell, Alexr. Duncan, George Poyntz Ricketts, John Webb, Danl. Robinson Leckie, Jas Primrose Johnstone, Julius Imhoff, A. H. Vansittart, George Lucadou, Watkin Williams Massey, Lambert Maloney, James Elphinstone, John Hamilton, Josiah Henry Martin, Hugh Macleod, Thomas Hayes, Duncan Campbell, Sir Alexr. Seton, Colin Shakespear.

22. And the following who were not last season of the Age prescribed by Act of Parliament are to rank immediately before the Writers of the present Season in the Order here named Vizt. Messrs James Pattle, Thomas Twining, Robert Ker, John Deane, Thomas Thornhill.

23. The following Persons have obtained our license to proceed to India as Free Mariners Vizt. Lewis Gibson, George Mercer, John Cartwright Morris, Edward Wintersgill Piercy (in India), Robert Jones, Andrew Smith, Thomas Cobb Pittman, Thomas Thompson (gone to India on the Lord Hawkesbury), James Sutherland (in India), William Hewitson, William Pole, Peter Mc. Dowall, John Yarde Fownes, Henry

11. Mr. Robert William Fitzhugh, who has been a Clerk in our Secretary's Office twenty years, having applied to us for leave to proceed to India as a Free Merchant, We have granted his request and he takes passage on the Ship Dublin.

12. Mr. Ebenezer Comport Coleman, who is in Bengal, has our permission to remain in India as a Free Merchant, and we transmit in the Packet Covenants which must be executed by him, and returned to us.

13. We have permitted Mr. Richard Johnson to proceed to Bengal for the purpose of settling his private Affairs on his giving Security to return to England in three Years.

14. We forward a Number in the Packet for the purposes stated in the 5th Paragraph of our Letter of the 2nd December 1789, a list of Officers and Petty Officers who appear to have remained behind from the Ships which arrived in England in the course of the Season 1790.

15. In our Dispatches of last Season we had occasion to animadvert on the Conduct of Mr. Mackenzie for the evident want of temper which he manifested in his Minutes at the Board of Revenue of which he was a Member, and we acquiesce in the propriety of your resolution for removing him from his Seat at that Board. But as it does not appear that the intemperate behaviour of Mr. Mackenzie proceeded from any sinister Motives, and as we had formerly an occasion to express our approbation of his Merits and Services in another Situation, it is by no means our wish that his removal from the Board of Revenue should operate as a perpetual Bar to his Promotion in the Service. On the contrary as we look upon the Circumstance of his being so long out of employment as some attonement for his past Errors, we shall be pleased to see him again in the occupation of some Office that may be suited to his Rank and Abilities, and in the discharge of the Duties of which we trust he will conduct himself with that degree of moderation as will restore him to the good Opinion we formerly entertained of him.

16. We desire Colonel Kyd may be acquainted that we have received thro' Nathaniel Smith Esqr., a short Extract from an Account of a Journey to Serinagur in 1789, and likewise three Drawings taken upon the Road which we understand Colonel Kyd was desirous should be presented to the Court of Directors. We must take notice, upon this occasion, of the Zeal and ability shewn from time to time by Colonel Kyd in promoting the Study of Natural History; and particularly in his laudable endeavors for the Cultivation of such Trees and Plants in Bengal as may hereafter promote both the Political and Commercial advantages of Great Britain.

## LETTER DATED 4 AUGUST 1791

*Patna opium—Madras loan—Hamilton's timber plan approved—rice contracts approved—fortifications in Prince of Wales Island—Nizam's stipends of Nawab Mubarak-ud-Daulah—grant to Free School—bills on Court for meeting war expenses—settlement with Benjamin Lacan—translation of 'Commentary on the Mussulman Laws'.*

OUR Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. We wrote you in the Public Department under dated the 6th May last per Airly Castle and Bridgewater via Fort St. George, and have since received your several Advices as follows, Vizt.

Letter in the Political Department dated 20th Decr. 1790. Per Rodney.

Letter in the Public Department dated 31st Janry. 1791.

Letter in the Foreign Department dated 31st Janry. 1791.

Letter in the Political Department dated 31st Janry. 1791, P. William Pitt.

Answer to the Letter in the Public Department of the 6th November 1790, received per Princess Amelia

(Para. 1). Forwarding Duplicate  
of the Letters per Hough-  
ton.

(2). Acknowledging the receipt  
of the Court's Letters  
of the 19th March, 29th  
April & 19th May 1790.

(3 @ 5). In answer to the Court's  
Letter of the 19th March.

2. Need no reply.

(6). Referring to Regulations  
respecting the employ-  
ment of Writers.

3. We approve of the regulations referred to in this Para : (as far as they go) for the employment of Writers in the several Departments under your Presidency, agreeable to our Orders of the 19th March 1790. But you will see the necessity of adding to those regulations so as that our intentions in this

Hawes Harrington, Alexander Grant, William Sommerville, Patrick Haddon, Thomas Howell, Mark Roch, James Ayton, David Nisbett (in India), Spedding Benn, Thomas Byles, Peter Scott.

24. Mr. William J. Collee who has resided in Bengal several years, has our permission to return thither.

25. The following Persons of your Civil Establishment have obtained our leave to remain in England till next Season Vizt. Messrs Robert Beeby, Henry Taylor, Thomas Potengcr.

26. We have already advised you of the receipt of the several Letters from our Governor General Earl Cornwallis in the course of the past Sason. Altho' we have not deemed it necessary to enter into a regular reply to these Letters, the subjects upon which they treat being connected with those contained in the General Advices, yet we cannot close our final Dispatches without expressing the high sense we entertain of his Lordship's Zeal for the Service, in having waved all personal considerations, by determining, after the Commencement of Hostilities to remain in his Station so long as he might think that his presence in India would essentially contribute to the Security of the Company's Possessions, or materially promote the general prosperity of their Affairs.

27. We have received your several Advices by the Princess Amelia and likewise a Letter from Lord Cornwallis of the 17th November last. As the remainder of our freighted Ships of the present Season are upon the eve of their Departure, and as we have already written very fully upon every material point, it is not our intention to enter at present into a particular reply to those Advices. We are extremely concerned to the delay that is likely to be occasioned in the movements of the Troops under the Command of General Medows, by the late irruption of Tippoo Sultaun into the Coimbatore Country. We trust that such a plan of Operations will be arranged between the Commanders of the several Divisions, and with our Allies, as that the War will be brought to a Speedy, successful, and honorable conclusion.

We are,

Your Affectionate Friends,

J. Smith Burges/F. Baring/J. Manship/  
John Roberts/George Tatem/Lionel Darell/  
Thos. Parry/Stepn. Williams/Paul Le Mesurier/W. Elphinstone/W. Money/Abra'm  
Roberts/Thos. Cheap/John Travers/Thos.  
T. Metcalfe/Jn. Townson/Simon Frazor/R.  
Thornton.

London

the 6th May 1791.

[Duplicate Per *Asia*.]



that have been stated, in the permission given to the Madras Government for increasing the Interest from 10 to 12 P. Cent on the Loan that was Negotiating for the company at that Settlement.

(66, 67). Supplies to Fort St. George.

7. We have already in the 17th Paragraph of our Dispatch in the Public Department of the 30th of March last, expressed our approbation of your exertions for affording the necessary supplies to the Presidency of Fort St. George, for the purpose of a vigorous prosecution of the War against Tippoo Sultaun ; and we trust that under the conditions you have prescribed for Bills being drawn upon you in future, you will still be able to give the necessary assistance to the Presidencies of Madras and Bombay during its continuance.

(68). Mr. Hamilton's Plan for procuring Teak Timber from the Rajahmundry Forests.

8. Mr. Hamilton's Plan as far as we can judge of it at present for procuring Teak Timbers from the Rajahmundry Forests for the uses and Demands of Bengal, appears deserving of encouragement so far as relates to the protection he solicits but not to extend to any exclusive privilege whatsoever, we shall however be better able to form an opinion thereon when we shall be advised of the sentiments of the Madras Government, to whose determination the Plan has been ultimately referred.

respect as communicated in our orders before mentioned may be fully and completely answer'd.

(7, 8). Continuation of answer to the Court's Letter of 19th March 1790

(9 @ 13). Answer to the Court's Letter of 28th April 1790.

(14, 15). Concerning the Court's recommendation of Mr. Robert Gregory.

(16 @ 54). Continuation of the answer to the Courts Letter of 28th April 1790.

(55 @ 60). Answer to the Court's Letter of the 19th May 1790

(61). Referring to last advices for Information on the Subject of Remittances to China.

4. Need no Reply.

(62, 63). Bad Quality of the Patna Opium.

5. We have read the representation of Captain Lloyd concerning the bad Quality of the Patna Opium purchased last year at your Sales—We are clearly of opinion, from what has been stated by the preparer of Reports that Captain Lloyd is not entitled to any compensation from the Company on that account. But the most material part of this subject, vizt. the Patna Opium having lost its credit in the Foreign Markets on account of the badness of its quality, will be noticed in our answer to your Letter in the Revenue Department.

(64 & 65). Concerning the Loan negotiating at Fort St. George.

6. In our Dispatch of the 30th March last, we signified our acquiescence, under the circumstances

that were sent to Ben-  
coolen.

- (78, 79). Referring to their Proceedings for the latest Intelligence respecting Prince of Wales's Island.
14. We positively direct that the fortification to be erected on this Island shall be no more than what is absolutely necessary to secure the establishment from insult during the contentions existing in the neighbourhood, nor any expence incurred exceeding an Estimate to be laid before you for your approval.
- (80). New Settlement at the Andamans.
15. Not having yet received the Report of Commodore Cornwallis, nor the Surveys of Captain Kyd and Lieutenant Blair, we are still unable to give you any final directions respecting the New Settlement at the Andamans. We trust, however that these necessary materials for forming our Judgment will be received by one of the Ships of the present Season.
- (81). Letter from the Civil Auditor containing Reasons for altering the Register of Commercial Servants.
16. We approve of the Alteration in the mode of stating the Commercial Establishment.
- (82). Referring to Regulations for the Payment of the Interest on Certificates and Promissory Notes.
17. The Regulations referred to in this Paragraph for the Payment of the Interest on Promissory Notes and Certificates appear proper.
- (83). No Loans upon Promissory Notes to be received, that will become payable between the 31st January, and 1st October 1791.
- (84). Referring to a List of Appointments that have taken place since the Departure of the Houghton.

- (69). Concerning Mr. Beanland's consignments of Rice to Fort St. George.
- (70). Transmitting an agreement between the Madras Government and the Commander and Officers of the Queen to pay in England the amount of the Import Duties on Goods landed at Madras.
9. Need no Reply.

- (71) @ 74). Supplies of Rice to Bombay and Tellicherry.
10. Having attended to the Consultations to which you have referred us upon the subject of the late Contracts for supplying Bombay and Tellicherry with Rice, we approve thereof. We likewise acquiesce in the propriety of the subsequent Indulgence that was shewn to Captain Richardson as stated on your Proceedings.
- (75) Referring to the Opinion of the Advocate General upon a Law Question.
11. The Opinion of your Advocate General on a Question, whether in the absence of the Governors of Fort St. George or Bombay, the place of a third Member of Government can be supplied in the sessions and at the Court of Appeals ; is under consideration.
- (76). Relative to Remittances from Bombay, thro' the Resident of Benares.
12. The information contained in this Paragraph, that the Resident at Benares has negotiated with the Houses of Bowanny Doss and Munnohur Doss for a Monthly Remittance of three Lacks of Rupees to Bombay to December 1791, is very agreeable to us.
- (77). Advising the arrival at Masulipatam of the remainder of the Sepoys
13. Needs no Reply.

Meer Jaffier for transferring the Monthly Allowance which was appropriated to the support of herself and her Sons to her Grandson, under the restriction mentioned in the Conclusion of the Paragraph.

- (93). Advising the receipt of Rs. 10,000 from the Managers of the Orphan Society for Bills on the Court of Directors.
- (94). That Oswald Dykes Jackson and Henry Pine unlicensed Persons have been ordered to return to Europe.
- (95). That an allowance of A. Rs. 60 P. Month has been made to the Free School for the purpose of employing Moonshies capable of teaching the Native Languages to the Children.
- (96). Relative to the encouragement given to the Sugar and Arrack Manufacturers.
- (97). Advising the appointment of Mr. Wm. Burroughs to the Office of Standing Counsel on the Death of Mr. Simpson.
22. Needs no Reply.
23. Under the circumstances stated in this Paragraph, you acted very properly in ordering the return of Messrs Oswald Dykes Jackson and Henry Pine to Europe.
24. We do not object, in this instance to the allowance to the Free School of A. Rs. 60 P. Month for the purpose of employing Moonshies capable of teaching the Native Languages to the Children ; but no further allowances of this Nature must be made without our previous approbation.
25. We have read Mr. Lamberts Letter referred to in this Paragraph upon the subject of the Sugar and Arrack Manufacturers in Bengal, but as your final decision on this Letter has not yet been reported to us we have no directions to give you at present relative thereto.
26. We approve of the appointment of Mr. William Burroughs to the Office of Standing Counsel on the Death of Mr. Simson, but in the event of the Office of Advocate General becoming

- (85). Advising the return of Mr. John Bennet Burges on account of his ill health. } 18. Need no Reply.
- (86). Mr. Graham permitted to continue to be concerned in the House of Agency 'till the end of October. }
- (87, 88). Respecting the Progress that has been made in the Gold and Silver Coinage since the Advices. P. Houghton. }
- (89 and 90). Nizamut Arrangements. } 19. After an attentive persusal of Lord Cornwallis's Minute of the 3rd of September 1790, proposing sundry Arrangements for the future management and appropriation of the Stipend of the Nabob Mobareck-ul-Dowlah, we very much approve of the adoption of a Plan which at once provides for the payment of His Highness's Debts, establishes a Fund for the maintenance of his increasing Family and at the same time is conformable to our earnest desire of contributing to his case honour and happiness. It will afford us great satisfaction to hear that the proposed Plan has received the Nabob's ready and chearful acquiescence.
- (91). Appropriation of Rajah Dirje narrains Stipend. } 20. We have referred to the Proceedings of the 15th September 1790 and concur in the propriety of the appropriation of a Portion of the late Rajah Dirjenarrain's Stipend as mentioned in your Resolution of that date.
- (92). The Allowance to the Sister of Meer Jaffier transferred to her Grandson. } 21. We see no objection to your having complied with the request of the Sister of the late

32. We have appointed Thomas Graham Esqr., a Provisional member of your Council, and he is to succeed thereto upon the first vacancy.

33. Herewith you will receive an Act\* passed in the last Session of Parliament entitled "An act for establishing and confirming a certain Resolution or Order of the Governor General in Council of Fort William in Bengal, and all acts done by virtue thereof, and for granting further Powers to the said Governor General during his Residence on the Coasts of Coromandel and Malabar."

34. We enclose a Number in this Packet the London Gazette of the 18th June, 1791 containing our Resolution of the 3rd of that month respecting persons who may be found guilty of illicit Trade.

35. In our Letter in the Public Department of the 19th May last, [1790.] we stated our reasons for deferring the Consideration of your Recommendations in favour of several Officers under your Government for an increase in their Salaries, and you were informed of our intention of communicating to you our sentiments thereon by the early ships of the present season, but when we consider the present situation of our Affairs in India, we are induced still to defer the discussion of the points above referred to, to a future period. We shall however pay that attention to your recommendation which they may appear on a due investigation to merit.

36. Having taken into consideration your Proceedings in consequence of our reference to you agreeably to the Deed dated the 3rd October 1787, entered into between the Company and Mr. Benjamin Lacam for settling all matters in dispute between the Company and Mr. Lacam concerning Pottah granted to him of Land at New Harbour, we have in compliance with your recommendation resolved to settle upon Mr. Lacam an annuity of (£600) Six hundred Pounds for his own life, with a reversion of (£400) four hundred Pounds a year to his Widow for her life if she should survive him in addition to the sums already advanced him at home and in India.

37. We have permitted lieutenants Charles Hamilton and James Anderson to publish at the Company's expence an edition of their Translation of a Commentary on the Mussulman Laws, whereof 200 Copies are to be delivered to the Company and the remainder are to be disposed of by the Translators. We have lately received 20 Sets

\*See Daines Paking (Ed.) *The Statutes at Large*, Vol XXXVII, pp. 335-38 (Cambridge, 1790).

vacant, it is our direction that it be not permanently filled without our Concurrence.

(98). Mentions the State of the Treasury.  
27. Needs no Reply.

28. Your short Letter in the Public Department of the 16th November 1790 needs no particular reply.

29. In the present situation of our Affairs in India, which require every exertion and every precaution on our part, to enable our Governments to prosecute the War with vigour and success, we may be induced to depart occasionally from those general Rules, and directions which we have laid down for the conduct of our Affairs in peaceable times; and as we conceive that our orders of the 21st September 1785, and the 31st July 1787, by which you are authorized to draw on us, under the restriction of applying the money to be received for those Drafts, in the first instance towards the discharge of our Bonds, may in the present state of your Treasury, prove an embarrassment to your Finances, or at least, that the value to be received for those Drafts may be more usefully employed; We hereby remove that restriction altogether; and at the same time that we confirm the permission already given to you to draw on us in the manner prescribed, we leave it in the direction of our Government *[sic]* General to apply the Money which may arise from those Drafts to such services as they may judge most expedient or necessary to be discharged, whether the same may be for Current Services, or for the liquidation of any description of Debt whatsoever.

30. We must observe however, that altho' we are induced to dispense with our former restriction under an apprehension that the heavy expence of the War may render the same absolutely necessary, yet we shall be glad to find that you will be able to spare a part of the sum for which you may draw on us, to be applied to the discharge of our old Debts according to our former Plan, and that we shall be more so when the Military Expenses, arrears of the War &c., will become so moderate as to enable you to revert once more to the same plan, and to confine the appropriation of the whole of what may be received for Drafts on us, towards the liquidation of our old Debts.

31. You will have perceived by the large supply of Bullion we sent to India by the Ships of last Season and the permission we granted to Individuals to send the same for their account, that we have been attentive to strengthen your Treasury by every means in our power! you may rely on our endeavors to encourage Individuals to continue their Missions, and likewise that we shall enter more fully into this subject by the first ships of the ensuing Season.



which we have received this Season; as the Remarks so strongly urged in those Letters are sufficient to direct our several Presidencies in the form and correctness required in making up their Accounts in order to enable us to prepare the annual Statements to be laid before Parliament with accuracy and precision.

For these Reasons and the Circumstance of our not having received any Address from you on this subject, subsequent to the one we have already replied to, We shall at present only make some general Observations on the Result of our former Calculations respecting the Surplus Revenues, and the Amount of our Debts in India.

In the 53rd Para. of our Letter of the 3rd June 1790, the result of the several Estimates for 1789/90 was stated as follows.

Revenues of Bengal . . . . .	C.Rs. 5,60,93,97
Madras—Pags. 35,90,360 or	1,52,59,030
Bombay Rups. 11,91,627 or	13,82,287
<hr/>	
Total revenues	C. Rs. 7,27,35,288

Charges of Bengal	C.Rs. 3,16,20,270
Madras Pags. 37,71,359—	1,60,28,276
Bombay Rups. 49,02,676—	56,87,104
Bencoolen &	
Prince of	6,50,000
Wales Island	
<hr/>	
Total Charges	5,39,85,650

Leaving a Net Revenue of C. Rs. 1,87,49,638

From this Amount we deducted for the loss on the Remittance supposed to be required from Bengal to make up the deficiency at the latter Place C. Rs. 2,36,766. And the Interest on the Bond and other Debts outstanding the 30th April 1789 as stated in the Account presented to Parliament 43,84,263

46,21,029

Leaving the Estimated Net Surplus revenue . . . . . 1,41,28,609

To which adding the Estimated Amount to be received for Import Sales & Certificates . . . . . 36,22,574

The sum of C.Rs. 1,77,51,183

was calculated to be applicable to Investments in India Supplies to China and the Discharge of Debts.

that work which we forward by the Ship Airly Castle via Fort St. George for the use of our Servants at your Presidency.

We are,

Your affectionate Friends.

J. Smith Burges/F. Baring/J. Manship/Wm. Money/W. Bensley/Thos. Parry/Lionel Darell/ John Travers/Stephn. Williams/ Chas. Mills/Smon Frazer/Jacom Bosanquet/Abra'm Roberts/John Roberts/Paul Le Mesurier.

London  
the 4th August 1791,  
[Duplicate per Swan.]

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## LETTER DATED 4 AUGUST 1791

*Comments on budgets and debts.*

OUR Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

By the present Conveyance We transmit you Copies of the Accounts which were laid before the House of Commons, and of the Resolutions that were passed respecting them, in the last Sessions of Parliament.

It affords us great satisfaction that we were enabled in this session (for the first time) to lay before Parliament regular Accounts of the Revenues and Charges of our three Presidencies made up to the close of the preceding Official Year in India, together with a Comparison of the Estimates and the actual result for that Year and also all the Estimates for the following year. The Bombay Accounts indeed did not arrive sufficiently early to be presented with those of your Government and of Madras; but they were received and laid before the House of Commons, previous to the Day on which this Subject was taken into Consideration; and we trust that in consequence of the Orders we have already given, proper Care will be taken by that Government to complete their Accounts and transmit them home in due time for this purpose in future.

In our former Letters on this subject we have stated our Observations so fully on the several Items of which the Statements for preceding Years have been composed, that it does not seem necessary in the present Instance to enter into a particular Investigation of those

Sales and Certificates; as the Revenues and Charges of your Government and of Bombay have, on the whole, turned out more favourably than they were estimated.

The Revenues at Bengal appear to have exceeded the Estimate 1st. In the Receipts from Benares, owing to a very large Collection of Balances due of former Years, while the Current Revenue was also completely realized; excepting only, the remissions allowed by your Government. This Circumstance reflects great Credit on the attention of the Resident there to the discharge of his Duty.

2ndly The Current Year's Collection of the Land Revenues exceeded the Estimate by 11½ Lacs, which confirms the Expectation expressed in the 39th Para. of our Letter of the 3rd June, 1790 and shews at the same time that the Estimate was drawn up with a proper Degree of Caution. The Amount of the Collections from Benares, and the Land Revenues having on the Average of this and the preceding Year exceeded the Jumma for those years, is a Circumstance highly Satisfactory, as it shews the prosperous state of the Country from the Landholders being able to discharge their Stipulated Rents, and diminish the Arrears incurred in former Years; and hence affords the agreeable prospect of the realization of the Jumma in future.

On the other hand, the Revenue arising from the Sale of Salt has produced less than was estimated by C. Rs. 15½ Lacs; this Deficiency appears to have arisen entirely from the fall in the Price of that Article, to which we alluded in the 40th Para. of our Letter before mentioned, and stated our Opinion, that the Head of Resource was estimated too high; at the same time we expressed our approbation of the Measures you had adopted for reducing its price to a reasonable rate, as we consider that altho' such a reduction occasions a Defalcation in the Amount of Revenue under this Head yet while it contributes so much to the Welfare of the Natives, it must in a general View be advantageous to the Company—for in proportion as the Prices of the Necessaries of Life are reduced to the Ryots and to the Manufacturers we may naturally expect that the Revenues will be more exactly paid up, and the Investment furnished at a Cheaper rate.

The Charges of your Government on the whole were less by 4 Lacs than their Estimated Amount occasioned principally by the Decrease in the Charges & Advances for the Manufacture of Salt as far as these can be ascertained; but we must here notice a considerable Omission in your inserting on the General Books, only the Net Profits of this Article for the Year, and not the Amount of the Advance & Charges. As, from this Circumstance, the only means we had of

By the several Statements received from our respective Presidencies the actual revenues and Charges of that Year appear to have been as follow :—

Revenues at Bengal by Accots No 1 & 3 amounted

to	C.Rs.	5,62,06,561
at Madras by Accots No. 4 & 6 Pags.	31,39,519	1,33,42,956
at Bombay by the Accot in No. 50 substituted	-	-
for the Return No. 9 Rups.	14,42,505	16,73,305

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Total Revenue C. Rs. 7,12,22,822

Charges at Bengal by No. 3 C.Rs. 3,12,01,486

At Madras by No. 6.

Pags. 43,47,537 1,84,77,032

at Bombay by the Acct. above referred to

Rups. 48,02,685 55,71,114

Supplied from Bengal to Bencoolen & Prince of Wales

Island as by No. 27 . 4,39,442

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Total Charges 5,56,89,074

Leaving a Net Revenue of

C.Rs. 1,55,33,748

Deducting from this the loss by

the Remittance from Bengal

to Bombay of the Excess of

Charges Viz. Rups. 34,60,180

being C. Rs. 2,20,759 and the

Interest paid or accruing on the

Debts as they stood on the 30th

April 1789 43,84,263

46,05,022

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There will remain

C.Rs. 1,09,28,726

To which adding the receipts for

Import Sales & Certificates being

by the Account substituted for

No. 15.

26,39,398

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The Net Surplus applicable to the Purposes above mentioned is

C. Rs. 1,35,68,124

Which is less than was estimated by the sum of

C. Rs. 41,83,059

This Defalcation in the actual Result when compared with the Estimates arises from the Revenues of the Madras Government having fallen short of, and the actual Charges having exceeded their Estimated Amount; and from the Deficiency in the Receipts from Import

In this is included the Sum of C.Rs. 7,13,717 on Account of the Salt of 1195, sold to that Date, but which we were convinced from the Observations we have had occasion to make on this Subject, cannot with Propriety be considered as a Debt owing by the Company at that Period.

Deducting therefore this Sum . . . . . 7,13,717

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The Remainder is C.Rs. 6,60,89,123

But in the Madras Quick Stock of the 30th April 1789 from which the Statement of Debts owing at that Presidency was taken, the Arrears of Peshcush due to the Nizam were not inserted—these to the 25th September 1788, by the Accounts received from your Presidency & from Fort St. George amounted to Arcot Rupees 9,16,665 and if to this be added the Proportion of Peshcush from that time to the 30th April 1789 being about 4 Lacs for as neither of these Sums were paid previous to that date they became clearly a Debt then owing & fall properly to be added to the above, amountg. to, at the Batta of of 8 P. Ct. 14,21,998

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C. Rs. 6,75,11,121

In the Estimate No. 21 received by the Melville Castle there is added to the Debts on the Quick Stock dated 30th April 1789, the sum of C. Rs. 1,30,000, for Military Arrears of Madras & Bombay then undischarged, and not included in those Accounts, and the further Sum of C.Rs. 3,64,492 for Bills granted at Fort St. George for Pay of the King's Troops not then liquidated. These two Sums amounting to . . . . . 4,94,492

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if added to the above, will make the Total of the Debts in India on 30th April 1789 C.Rs. 6,80,05,619

With the above Corrections therefore, it would appear at first Sight that the Diminution in the Debts in the course of 1788/9, was less than we stated it in the 33rd Para of our Letter of the 3rd June, 1790, but against this Conclusion we need only refer to the Remark in the following Paragraph of that Letter relative to the Corrections necessary to be made in the Amount of those Debts on 30th April

ascertaining that Amount was by deducting from the Gross Receipts, as inserted in the General Letter from the Revenue Department received by the Houghton, the Net Profit on the General Books, and stating the Balance as the Amount of Advances and Charges; which it would be, if both these were correct; but as we were led into an error on this Subject last year, we think it necessary to repeat the Direction given in the 3rd Para: of our Letter of the 3rd June 1790; Vizt. That the Gross receipts the Charges and Advances as well as the Net Profit of the Year be regularly detailed on your General Books.

The Expence of Buildings and Fortifications appears to have been considerably below the Estimate, but the Military Charges are necessarily increased by the addition made to the Native Establishment, and in the other Preparations adopted by your Government to assist the exigencies of the War in the Carnatic.

The Deficiency in the Receipts at Madras arises in the Land Revenues, the collections of which were less than their estimated Amount by  $3\frac{1}{2}$  Lacs of Pagodas. In the 48th Paragraph of our Letter of the 3rd June 1790, we stated our Reasons for supposing that the Estimate in this respect was not over rated, the Result has, however, proved that our expectations were ill founded. We do not think it necessary here to detail the particulars which have led to this diminution in the Revenues, as we shall in our Letters to the Madras Government have occasion to remark more particularly on this Subject.

With respect to the Excess in the Charges at Madras above the Estimate; as this arises chiefly in the Military Expences, we conclude that it must be attributed to the War and therefore any further observations upon it appear unnecessary.

The Revenues of the Presidency of Bombay appear to have exceeded the Estimate for this year by Bombay Rs. 2,50,878 and the Charges notwithstanding some Expence must have been incurred in the Preparations for Hostilities, are Rs. 99,961 less than their estimated Amount

We shall next make some Observations on the Amount of our Debts in India.

In the 30th Para of our Letter of the 3rd June 1790  
we stated the Amount of the Debts in India on  
the 30th April 1789 at . . . C.Rs. 6,68,02,840

not accepted until after that Period. Of this Sum C. Rs. 19,78,777 are stated to have been drawn by the Madras Government, & C. Rs. 8,83,390 by that of Bombay; the remainder being for Bills from Fort Marlbro' and the Factory at Canton.

The apparent Omission of so large a sum in the Statement of Debts on the Quick Stock Accounts is similar in effect to the Omission of the Military Arrears of the Presidencies of Madras & Bombay transferred to Bengal at the beginning of the year 1786 which prevented our ascertaining the Amount of the Debts in India at that Period, as has already been observed in our Letter of the 19th May 1790.

It would be highly Satisfactory to us if the Accounts of the Debts at the several Presidencies at the same Period could be stated with Precision as to these Articles, we are apprehensive-however that this may not be altogether practicable for Cash may have been received in to the Treasuries at Madras & Bombay for Bills on you so near to the conclusion of the Period of forming their Quick Stocks that it may not be possible for you to receive advice thereof in time for inserting the consequent Demands on your Treasury in the Statement of Quick Stock at your Presidency of the same date-on the other hand you may have dispatched Bills to those Governments and debited the same on your Quick Stocks which cannot possibly have arrived there at the date of making up their Quick Stocks, we wish very much however that this Subject may be attended to, in future, informing these Statements, and therefore you will give Directions that any Sums in the latter Predicament may be properly noticed-and the other Presidencies are to observe the same method of stating on their Quick Stocks the Amount of Drafts on you for which Value has been received by them to the Period of closing them, but of which information could not have been communicated to you in time for inserting them in your Accounts made up to the same Date.

In the present Instance these Circumstances do not appear to have been attended to, as we observe that the Debts outstanding at Bengal include sums for the intended Supplies to the other Settlements, which altho' stated as a Debt incurred on account of the Supplies of the Year 1789/90 could not be realized there till the following Year. In particular a Part of the Certificates issued for the Supply of Rice to Madras and Bombay appears in this Predicament; and on comparing the Amount received for Bill &c. as entered on the general Statements of those Presidencies with the Sum stated to be supplied by your Government in the Year 1789/90 the Difference far less considerable than the Sum above stated which could not have happened

1788, which evinces that a larger sum than 46 Lacs might with Propriety have been reckoned up as the actual diminution which had taken place in that year.

By the Account No. 16 of those now forwarded to you the Amount of our Debts in India on 30th April 1790, is stated at . . . . C. Rs. 7,05,66,526

which differs from the total of Debts inserted in the corrected Statement formed by your Accountant No. 50 received by the Princess Amelia for the following Reasons.

In that Statement the total of the Debts as inserted in the Quick Stock accounts of the three Residencies is C.Rs. 6,94,45,996

But this is exclusive of the Sum claimed for Arrears due on Account of the late Southern Service at Bombay amounting in No. 16 to 5,80,000

There is also a Difference in the Madras Account in the Article of Houses & Ground taken at Hog Hill, St. Thome &ca, of 51,000 Pags. or 2,16,750

The Debts at Bancoolen are also omitted 3,41,179

The Total of these Sums being C.Rs. 7,05,83,925  
agrees nearly with the Amount above stated, the small Difference arises from our having been furnished with the Quick Stock Account from Bussorah of a Later date than that made use of by your Accountant.

In the corrected Statement we observed also that the Sum of Current Rups, 1,00,000 is added for the Military Arrears of Madras to be discharged by your Government not included on the Quick Stocks 1,00,000

and which would make the Debts on the 30th April 1790 amount to C.Rs. 7,06,66,526

But besides the Article of Madras Military Arrears, there is a further Sum which is not included in our Account of Debts amounting to C. Rs. 31,18,789 & added in the corrected Statement, abovementioned for Bills drawn & Certificates granted, on your Government by the Other Settlements previous to the 30th April 1790, but which were



principal Causes has been already pointed out, in the unfavourable Realization of the Revenues at Madras, and the Extra Military Expenses incurred on account of the War. But, we must here observe, that altho' there has been an encrease in the Debts; yet on the other hand, it appears from the Quick Stock Accounts of our several Presidencies, that the Balance of Cash in the Treasuries and other Assets were likewise considerably greater on the 30th April 1790 than on the 30th April 1789.

In conformity to the Plan adopted in our former Letters on the Finances of India, we should not proceed to remark on the respective Estimates received from our several Presidencies for the year 1790/91; and point out the general Result of the whole; but several reasons suggest themselves against such a statement in the present Situation of our Affairs there. For, altho' we doubt not but that these Estimates have been formed, by our respective Governments or their Officers with every Consideration possible to the existing Circumstances, as far as they could come within their knowledge, at the periods when the Accounts were made up, yet in some instances the Sums stated must have been estimated on very vague principles. We allude particularly to the Amount of expected Receipts from the Countries of the Nabob of Arcot & Rajah of Tanjore, which are inserted in the Madras Estimate in Terms fully justifying this remark. But above all the uncertainty of the extent of the Expenses of the War have induced us to refrain from entering into this Calculation; as the Various Contingencies to which an Estimate in this Case is necessarily liable, must render the result of too doubtful a Nature to be reasoned upon as holding forth any great probability of being realized. We shall therefore, here close the Subject with expressing our hopes that the Vigorous exertions of our Armies now in the Field, and the Assistance reasonably to be expected from our Allies may soon lead to the Restoration of an Honourable and permanent Peace on which the prosperity of our Finances must depend.

We are,

Yours Affectionate Friends.

J. Smith Barges/F. Baring/John Roberts/  
John Hunter/George Tatem/Thos. Parry/  
W. Elphinstone/Jacq. Bonanquet/Hugh  
Ingis/Paul Le Moestier/In Townson/Thos  
Cheap/W. Bensley/Wm. Mooney/Steph.  
Williams/Simon Fraser.

London

the 4th August 1791.

[Tripleate]

unless at the same time that Bills drawn by those Settlements were not presented at Bengal or acknowledged as a Debt there, a part of the Remittances from thence were not received or brought to account at the other Presidencies; in No. 25 received per Northumberland an Instance of this kind occurs from the Amount of Bills and Certificates granted at Bombay in 1787/8 and not accepted at Bengal on 30th April 1788, amounting to CRs. 9,85,811; Current Rupees 7,55,336 are deducted for Bills remitted from Bengal to that Presidency which could not have been received there at that Date.

In a general view of our Affairs also, the 18 Lacs of Rupees inserted on your General Register of Certificates in December 1789, for the intended Remittance to China, no part of which could have been realized there on the 30th April following might be considered both as a Debt and Credit at that Period. And in like manner on the Quick Stock of the Madras Government for the 30th April 1790, the Sum of Pagodas 7,78,423 is inserted as a Debt owing by the Company to the Private Creditors of the Nabob of Arcot, of which Pagodas 5,18,979 is for their Proportion of the Kist, of July preceding; but as the whole of this Kist had not been received from the Nabob at that time, some Deduction might be made on this Account from the Amount of Debts charged as owing by the Company in India.

On the whole, without entering into a further Examination of the Accounts it should appear that the Corrections to be made on both Sides of the Statement of Debts would nearly balance each other, we shall therefore assume the above Sum of CRs. 7,06,66,526 as the Amount of Debts owing on 30th April 1790.

The Total of Debts owing on 30th April 1789 ; was	
before stated at C.Rs. 6,80,05,613, and it thence	
follows that in the Year 1789/90 the Debts in	
India were increased by the Sum of	C.Rs. 26,60,913

To which if the Amount subscribed to the Remittance	
Plans within the Year be added, being as Per	
No. 17	39,91,339

The Total encrease if no Transfer had taken place	
would have appeared to have amounted to	C. Rs. 66,52,252

We do not think it necessary to enter into a discussion of the particular Items that have contributed to this encrease; one of its

Nicholas Herbert. John Santer. Michael Bromhall. Hugh Maclean  
(abroad).

We are,

Your Affectionate Friends,

J. Smith Burges/F. Baring/J. Manship/  
Paul Le Mesurier/George Tatem/W. Bens-  
ley/Thos. Parry/Jn. Townson/Thos. T.  
Metcalf/A. Robarts/Wm. Money/Stepn.  
John Roberts.

London

The 14th December, 1791  
[Duplicate.]

27

## LETTER DATED 8 FEBRUARY 1792

*Remittances to Madras—rice contracts—remittances to Bombay—  
Prince of Wales Island—agreement regarding sugar with Hiram Cox—  
China remittance—stationery—Nawab Nazim's debts—kindness of  
King of Trengganu—Salsettee revenues—Kyd's letter concerning Botani-  
cal Garden—list of free mariners.*

OUR Governor General & Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. Our last Letter to you in this Department was dated the 14th December 1791 and transmitted by the Ship Nottingham, via Fort St. George—We shall now proceed to answer your Letters in the Public Department of the 31st January, and 12th March 1791.

Answer to the Letter in the Public Department Dated 31st January 1791

(Para. 1). Transmitting Consul- 2. Needs no reply.  
tations.

(2). Referring to the opinion of the Advocate General upon a Law Question. 3. We have already advised you that the opinion of your Advocate General on the construction of that part of the 27th Section of the 24th of the King, which relates to the temporary Appointment of a 3d. Member of Council at Madras and Bombay, is under consideration.

(3 @ 6). Concerning the Fort St. George Finances and 4. We are sensible of your endeavors from time to time for assisting

## LETTER DATED 14 DECEMBER 1791

*Indians Ineligible for Company's service—regulations regarding mates of ships—list of free mariners.*

OUR Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. We wrote you last this Department under date of the 4th August by the Ship Canada by which conveyance we transmitted a Separate General Letter dated the same day and forwarded Duplicates of those Dispatches by His Majesty's Sloop Swan.

2. We have since received your Advices as follow, viz.

Letter in the Public Department dated 12th March 1791.

Do. Revenue Department dated 10th March 1791.

Do. Political Department dated 12th March & 8th April

Do. Foreign Department dated 12th March Per Warren Hastings.

3. By the accompanying Resolutions on the 19th April and 9th November 1791 you will see that the Sons of Native Indians are not eligible to any Station either Civil, Military or Marine, or for Sworn Officers of the Company's ship employed between Europe or India.

4. We transmit herewith for your information and guidance a copy of Regulations established by us on the 8th June 1791 respecting the Qualifications of Mates for ships in the Company's Service but that the same may not operate retrospectively to the prejudice of the Officers who were previously in the Service we have permitted those Mates who were sworn in before us previous to the said 8th June to avail themselves of the preceding Regulations of the 15th July 1789 Copy of which likewise makes a number in the Packet.

5. Mr. Oswald Charters who resided in Bengal many years has our leave to return thither and remain three years.

6. The following Persons have obtained our license to proceed to India under Free Mariner's Indenture's; Viz. James Hutchins Thomas Allen Vincent, William Hardy, Benjamin Walker, John Howden, Samuel Hodges, Allan Mc Lean, Edgar Thomas Dell.

- (13) Bombay remittances
- 10 We are advised in your subsequent Dispatch of the 12th of March last, that on Account of the Military Operations, further Aids were required by the Presidency of Bombay, in addition to the Monthly supply of Three Lacks of Rupees from Benares Under the circumstances stated in your last mentioned Dispatch, we approve of the Engagements you have entered into for effecting a further Remittance from that Settlement As it has been stated that the Company are liable to considerable loss by the remittances made thro' Benares, we direct that you endeavour to devise some more eligible mode of effecting these Remittances for the next Season
- (14 @ 16) Supply of Grain to Bombay
- 11 We approve of the measures that have been taken for supplying Bombay with Rice, as advised in this and in your subsequent Dispatch of the 12th March last
- (17) Advising that the 250 Chests of Opium have been sent to Prince of Wales's Island
- 12 We likewise approve of you having dispatched 250 Chests of opium, on the Company's Account to Prince of Wales's Island, and desire to be informed of the rate at which it was disposed of
- (18 @ 20) Advising of a Military reinforcement being sent to Prince of Wales's Island.
- 13 Having perused the Letters from Captain Light of the 6th and 22nd December 1791, expressive of his apprehensions of the Settlement, formed on Prince of Wales's Island, being attacked by the Mallays, w

their endeavors for raising the necessary supplies.

the Government of Madras in raising the necessary Supplies for carrying on the War, and have on various occasion expressed our approbation of your exertions for that purpose.

(7, 8). Concerning Mr. Tyler's Engagement for Supplying the Madras Government with Grain.

5. We approve of your determination for calling upon Mr Tyler's Securities in case he shall not have fulfilled his Engagement after the expiration of the extended term allowed him for so doing—We refer you to your Advices to Fort St. George for our further Sentiments hereon.

(9). Advising of their having supplied the Chief and Council at Vizagapatam with 600 Bags of Rice.

6. For the reasons stated in this Paragraph, we approve of the supply of Six thousand Bags of Rice to the Chief and Council at Vizagapatam.

(10). Concerning the non performance of Mr Mairs Contract for furnishing the Presidency of Madras with Rice.

7. We are advised in the 6 and 7 Paragraphs of your subsequent Dispatch of the 12 March last of the appeal that has been made to you by Mr. Mair, in consequence of the Madras Government having rejected his Contract. We shall therefore postpone giving our Opinion on such rejection until we shall be advised of your decision on the appeal.

(11). Advising that Mr. Beauland has also failed in his Engagements of a similar nature.

8. As the Madras Government have released Mr. Beauland from the performance of this Contract we have no directions jto give you upon the subject.

(12). Advising the amount of Bills drawn from Fort St. George (Current Rupees 68,19,736) exclusive of the Treasure Consigned thither.

9. We have already and repeatedly expressed our approbation of your Conduct in supplying our Presidency of Fort St. George with the necessary Funds for the prosecution of the War.

- Freeth and the legal Proceedings that were had.
- (31). Advising the quantity of Flour sent to Bencoolen on the Foulis. 17. Needs no reply.
- (32). Opium Consigned to Bencoolen by the Foulis It's estimated Produce Sicca Rups. 1,12,000. 18. We approve of your having consigned to Bencoolen by the Foulis, a quantity of Opium equal to the amount of the supply required by them, As this Ship is not yet arrived in Great Britain, we have not been advised of the produce of this Opium.
- (33). Advising the prospect of every Engagement for effecting the China Remittances last Year being realized. 19. Needs no reply.
- (34 @ 36). China Remittance. 20. We have read the Correspondence between your Board and the several Proposers for effecting the usual Remittance to the China Supra Cargos. We were naturally struck with the difference between the Term offered by Mr Cuthbert Fenwick and the rest of the Proposer when we consider the vast amount of this difference on the whole of the intended remittance, it would have been an agreeable Circumstance if Mr. Fenwick has either proposed responsible Security or accepted your offer for his paying Money into the Canton Treasury under the Security of Company's Paper But as this was not done, the rejection of his proposal altogether appears to have been a matter of necessity. We will

approve of your determination for sending a reinforcement of Troops and Military Stores thither, agreeably to the proposals contained in Mr. Stuarth's Minute of the 5th January) 1791: We anxiously wish to receive the long expected Report of Commodore Cornwallis on the Settlement recently formed on the Andamans, that we may come to a final decision respecting the continuance of the Settlement on Prince of Wales's Island.

- (21, 22). Advising the return of the Sepoys and Artificers that accompanied Captain Blair to the Andamans, and that others have been sent in their stead. 14 Needs no reply.
- (23 @ 25). Agreement concluded by the Deputy Governor and Council of Fort Marlbro' with Mr Hiram Cox for carrying on the Sugar Works at Banterem for 5 years. 15. No objection strikes us at present to the Agreement for 5 Years, concluded by the Deputy Governor and Council of Fort Marlbro' with Mr Hiram Cox, for carrying on the Sugar Works at Banterem, and which has obtained your acquiescence. We shall have occasion to speak of this subject more at large in our Advices to that Settlement. It is necessary however to observe, that we concur with you in the Censure passed on the Deputy Governor and Council for having concluded an Agreement for so long a period without obtaining your previous sanction.
- (26 @ 30). Concerning the issuing some forged Notes at Bencoolen by Mr. Joseph 16. These Paragraphs are referred to the consideration of the Company's Law Officers.



quality, and being informed that no Musters thereof have been returned, we cannot withhold expressing the strongest displeasure at such repeated instances of inattention to our Orders on this head.

24. A Sample of each Article so described, ought to have been returned, and by your proceedings of the 24th December 1790, we have observed that an Order did pass for sending home Musters of part of the Paper. To whom this charge was given does not appear, but considering the Person who should have put it in execution very reprehensible for his neglect of so doing, we direct that our displeasure upon the occasion be duly signified to him.
25. Having also observed by your Proceedings of the same date that an Order was given for selling at Public Auction several of the Articles reported of inferior quality, and as there can be no Article, but which, if saleable, might in some way be applied to our own Service, we prohibit all Sales of Condemned Stationary in future, and direct that what may be so damaged, as be totally unserviceable be burnt or destroyed.
26. This prohibition we have considered the more expedient, from an intimation we have privately received, of abuses practised on the Company by, means of such Sales to which from particular circumstances we cannot help giving some degree of credit,

not allow ourselves to believe the existence of a combination amongst the Merchants and Monied Men of your Settlement, for the purpose of procuring from the Company unreasonable terms in effecting the China or other Remittances. If such a Combination really exists, it is impossible you can long be strangers to it, and we rely on the constant exertion of your endeavors to effect the future Remittances upon equitable terms.

- (37). Referring to some Reports and statements received from Bombay.
21. As you have promised us a fuller communication on the subject of the Reports and Statement received from the Government of Bombay, we shall not now enter into a discussion of the Papers entered upon the consultations to which you have referred us.
- (38 @ 41). Concerning the misconduct of Mr William Wroughton, Collector of Momensing, in quitting India on an Imperial Ship, *without the permission of the Governor General and Council*, and against whom a Judgement had obtained in the Supreme Court of Judicature for a Debt due to a Native.
22. We approve of your Proceedings in the Case of Mr. William Wroughton, late Collector of Momensing, as related in these Paragraphs, and we shall not fail by every means in our power, to prove the sense we entertain of Mr. Wroughton's Conduct.
- (42). Stationary.
23. Finding upon examination of the Reports mentioned in this Paragraph, that a considerable portion of the Stationary Consigned to your Presidency by the Ships of 1789/90 has been pronounced to be damaged or of inferior

which by the conditions of his Contract he was bound to perform without any such compensation or other benefit than what he still exclusively enjoys.

30. The Arguments urged by the Contractor in support of his pretensions to this appointment and which have been so readily admitted, carry with them but little or no weight in our view of his Contract, as we cannot suppose he entered into it without having some knowledge of the Orders which had been given from hence prohibiting the purchase of Stationary in India ; and to prevent all occasion for so doing, directing an Indent to be Annually transmitted us to the full extent of your necessary demands.
31. With respect to experience in transacting a business so extremely simple and easy, it does not appear to us at all requisite, and we are at a loss to conceive why at this time, a Junior Servant under our Accountant General or other principal Officer cannot give the necessary attention to this business, when not many Years past it used to be attended to and transacted by the Deputy Accountant General, to whom it must certain have been far more inconvenient to give up any time to it.
32. We direct therefore that immediately upon your Receipt of this Letter Mr. Campbell be removed from the Office of Assistant in Charge of the Stationary, and a Company's Servant appointe

27. Having attentively perused the several Papers contained in No. 11. of the Dispatches from your Public Department by the William Pitt, giving an Account of your Proceedings in consequence of our Orders of the 28th April 1790, for annulling the Stationary Contract, we felt ourselves impelled to observe, that so far as they respect the Interests of the Contractor, they do by no means meet with our approbation.
28. It must, we conceive, have been perfectly obvious from the terms in which our Orders on this subject were expressed, that we considered it highly improper, that the Person who has the care and issuing of the Company's Stationary should have the, least Interest or Concern in any necessary Purchases of this Article and that in directing our Consignments of Stationary to be put in charge of some Confidential *Servant* of the Company, we had a decided objection to the appointing a Stranger to that Office.
29. We are therefore much surprised and displeased to find, that it has been recommended to our Governor General to continue Mr. Campbell the Contractor in this employ, annexing to it at the same time Allowances to the amount of Sicca Rupees Three hundred and forty (340) Per Mensem, which we can regard in no other light than so much Money unnecessarily given to him for executing those Duties,

- (49). Referring to a Volume of Geographical and Astronomical remarks being forwarded to the Court of Directors by the William Pitt.
- (50). Enclosing a Letter from Colonel Kyd upon Botanical Subjects.
- (51 @ 53). Remonstrance of the Nabob Mobareck Ul Dowlah against the late Nizamut Arrangements.
- (54). Mentions the Resignation of Mr. William Harding.
- (55). Advising the appointment of Mr. Foley to the Office of Civil Paymaster.
- (56). Mentions the return to Europe of Mr. David Cumming.
- (57). Liberality of the King of Tringano in ransoming five Englishmen wrecked in the Vansittart.
37. The Volume of Geographical and Astronomical remarks mentioned in this Paragraph, has not been received.
38. Colonel Kyd's Letter and the Specimens therein referred to, have been transmitted to Sir Joseph Banks.
39. We are extremely concerned that the Nabob Mobareck Ul Dowlah appears so much averse to the Plan proposed by you for the liquidation of his Debts, suing that it has for its ultimate object his own ease, honor and happiness. We trust however that Lord Cornwallis's reply to the Nabob's objections, and such further representations as may be necessary will at length be productive of His Highness's chearful acquiescence.
40. Needs no reply.
41. Upon the appointment of Mr. Foley, to the Office of Civil Paymaster, we approve of your having required from him Security in the Sum of a Lack of Rupees.
42. Needs no reply.
43. You acted very properly in noticing, as you have done, the liberality of the King of Tringano in ransoming five Englishmen, who were supposed to have been lost in the Wreck of the Vansittart. In order to insure a repetition of a similar act of

thereto, to whom we think an allowance of (200) Two hundred Sicca Rupees Per Mensem, will be an adequate Compensation for the extra trouble of executing the Duties of that Office.

33. We further direct that our Orders for the Annual transmission of an Indent of Stationary, with Accounts of your Issues and remains of this Article, be in future strictly and punctually attended to and that great care be taken to make out the Indent for such quantities as may be deemed fully sufficient to answer your demands.
- (43, 44). Advising (their) Proceedings relative to a Portuguese Ship the Madmgada. 34. Your Proceedings relative to the Madmgada, Portuguese Ship are under the consideration of the Company's Law Officers.
- (45). Pension to Mrs. Faria. 35. For the reasons that have been stated we acquiesce in the Pension of 50 Rupees per month, that has been granted to the Widow of the late Caitano Rebiero Do Faria, which is to be continued to her so long as Mrs. Faria shall remain a Widow.
- (46). Transmitting the Correspondence of the Residents Office at Benares from October 1781 to Sept. 1787. 36. Needs no reply.
- (47). Advising the return of Mr. John Newton as a Charter party Passenger.
- (48). Advising that Mr. Chas Fuller Martin has been appointed Sheriff.

- (9 @ 12). Concerning the supply of Rice to Bombay } 48. Already replied to.
- (13 @ 16) Remittances to Bombay. }
- (17). Plan for the temporary management of the Revenue of Salsette. 49. We have perused the Papers received from Bombay, relative to the Revenues of Salsette, as recorded on your Consultations of the 12th March 1791, and approve of the answer that was returned to the Bombay Government upon that subject. You will bear in mind the Sentiment expressed in our Letter to that Presidency of the 21st of April 1790, as after the issue of the present contest with Tippoo Sul-taun, it is our intention to take the general State of Affair upon the Malabar Coast into our most serious consideration.
- (18, 19) Enclosing copy of a Letter from Lord Grenville to Lord Cornwallis on the subject of various Articles to be supplied to the Settlement at Botany Bay and advising that the Governor General and Council had intended to advertize for proposals for contracting for such supplies accordingly. 50. You will continue to Advise us of such measures as you may think it necessary to take in consequence of Lord Grenville's Letter on the Subject of various Articles to be supplied the Settlement at Botany Bay.
- (20, 21) Concerning a Plan for establishing a Company of Insurance at Mirzapore. 51. We see no objection to your having assented to the Plan for establishing a Company of Insurance at Mirzapore for the purpose of Assuring the internal Trade of India with the Province and District of Benares, under the reservation expressed in the 21st Paragraph which restriction it is incumbent on the Resident at Benares to see properly attended to.

kindness upon any future occasion, you must take an opportunity of signifying to the king of Tringano that the British Nation entertain a due sense of his Humanity to their unfortunate Countrymen, and we observe with pleasure that you have given Orders to prepare a Present to be sent on the Occasion.

- (58). Advising the state of the Treasury. 64. Needs no reply.

Answer to the Letter in the Public Department Dated the  
12th March 1791

- |  |   |                    |
|--|---|--------------------|
| (Para. 1.) Forwarding consultation.  | } | 45. Need no reply. |
| (2—5). Advising a Committee being appointed to investigate certain points relative to Mr. Tyler's Engagements for the supply of Rice to Madras in 1787 and 1788. |   |                    |

- (6, 7). Concerning Mr. Mairs Rice Contract having been rejected at Madras and his consequent appeal to the Governor General and Council. 46. Already replied to.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| (8). No want of rice to be apprehended at Vizagapatam from the large quantities that have been sent thither. | 47. We have already expressed our approbation of the supply of Rice agreed to be sent to Vizagapatam. We have heard however with great concern that for want of proper foresight, in the Chief and Council of that Settlement great distress has been experienced from a scarcity in this necessary Article. |
|--|--|



58. We have come to a resolution to permit of 104 Persons to proceed to the East Indies this Season under Free Mariners Indentures. We think it necessary upon this occasion to require your Sentiments concerning the expediency of allowing Persons of this description to go out Annually from this Country for the purpose of providing for themselves in the way of their profession, and whether, and in what degree, the Commerce of India in general, or the Company's Interests in particular, are or are not promoted thereby. If you shall think that the measure of sending out Persons in the Seafaring line is of general utility, you will communicate to us your Opinion as to the number to whom this indulgence should be annually extended, as far as respects the Trade and Commerce of your Settlement in particular.

59. The following Persons have obtained our license to proceed to India, as Free Mariners, Vizt : William Wauchope, Caleb Tripass, Charles Mc Bean, Robert Frame, Benjamin Reddall, Thomas Davis, James Dalgleish, George Hemming, Michael Bowen, Charles Proby, John Crabtree, George Jolliffe, Thomas Helm, Robert Scott, Richard Sharp (abroad), Samuel Johnson, Joseph Hoppe, David Graham, Joseph Popham Robert Silk Isaac Heywood Robert Yound, James Coutts Crawford, John Mc. Cleish, John Kellie, Robert Hamilton.

60. We have permitted Captain Bruce Boswell to proceed to India, and direct that he succeed to the Office of Naval Store Keeper in Bengal, next after Messrs. Price and Fenwick.

We are,

Your affectionate Friends,

J. Smith Burges/F. Baring/John Hunter/  
John Roberts/W. Bensley/J. Townson/  
J. Manship/Geo. Tatem/Tho. Parry/Wm.  
Money/Simon Frazer/R Thornton/Jacob  
Bosanquet/Chas. Mills/W. Elphinstone/  
Tho.T.Metcalf/John Travers.

London

the 8th February 1792.

[Per General Girdlard.]

- (22 @ 24). Concerning the number of Fugitives from Foreign Ships resident in Calcutta and the present defects in the Police.
- (25). Advising of a Committee being appointed for the control of the expenditure of stationary.
- (26). Advising that the Attornies of Mrs. Tolley are erecting a new Bridge over the Creek called Tolley's Nullah.
- (27). Referring to a Letter from Lieut Col. Kyd on Botanical Subject.
- (28). Transmitting a Copy of Mr. Fairlie's contract for supplying Bombay with Rice.
- (29). Advising the return of Mr. Joseph Truth and his Son as Charterparty Passengers.
- (30). State of Treasury.
52. Your representation respecting the number of Fugitives from Foreign Ships resident in Calcutta and the present defects in the Police is under the consideration of the Company's Law Officers.
53. Already replied to.
54. Needs no reply.
55. Lieutenant Colonel Kyd's Letter on Botanical Subjects, will as usual be submitted to the consideration of Sir Joseph Banks—Agreeably to your Request our Supra Cargos at Canton will be directed to pay particular attention to all applications either from yourselves or from Lieutenant Coll. Kyd for assistance in the promotion of his Botanical Pursuits.
56. Need no reply.

57. We have appointed the following Writers for your Presidency in further part of the number agreed to be sent last Season Vizt: Messrs. Charles Milner Ricketts, William Egerton, James Rattray, Richard Parry.

7. We have permitted the following persons to proceed to India as Free Mariners Vizt. Robert D'Oyley Deakin, William De Mutts, Stephen Copestake, Rodney Statham, Thomas Manion (Abroad), Richard Darley, John Bicknel Seager, William Rees, George Oakes, Charles Leamonth, William Augustus Raper, George Mitchell, James Gillmer, Lorne Ferrier, Westby Percival, Robert Aislabie (Abroad), Francis Griffiths, John Garthshore, Samuel Snook (Abroad), John Mc. Dougal, Robert Mc. Leroth, John Sewden, Robert Scott, Ralph Campbell, Robert Scott, Ralph Campbell, Robert Stokes, George Cheene, Joseph Burnell, James Hill, William Longford George Ralph Collier, John Rusden, George Turner.

8. We have resolved to appoint fourteen Writers for your Presidency this Season.

We are,

Your Affectionate Friends,

London  
the 14th March 1792.  
[Per Ponsborne.]

J. Smith Burges/F. Baring/J. Manship/John  
Roberts/Lionel Darell/George Tatem/  
Thos. Parry/Simon Frazer/Abram Roberts/  
Jn. Townson/Wm. Money/Stepn. Williams/  
W. Bensley/John Hunter/John Travers.

29

## LETTER DATED 11 APRIL 1792

*Appointment of writers—Burrow's geographical and astronomical observations—letter to the Nizam having the force of a treaty.*

OUR Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. We have appointed Mr. Thomas Palmer a Writer for your Presidency to complete the number agreed to be sent thither in the season of 1789 and direct that he take rank next under Mr. Julius Imhoff and immediately before Mr. Arthur Hastings Vansittart.

2. We have appointed the Hon'ble Herbert Windsor Stuart a writer for your presidency in further part of the number agreed to be sent thither last season Mr. Stuart being on his passage to India we send Covenants to be executed by him.

3. We have appointed the following writers for your Presidency in part of the number agreed to be sent this season. Their rank will be advised by a future Conveyance Vizt. Messrs Courtney Smith,

## LETTER DATED 14 MARCH 1792

*Counterfeiting of pagodas—list of free mariners.*

OUR Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. Our last Letter to you in this Department was dated the 8th Ultimo.

2. We received the following Advices from your Presidency by the Ship Swallow, Vizt :

Letter in the Public Department dated 10th\* August 1791.

Letter in the Political Department dated 4th Do.

Letter in the Foreign Department dated 17th Do.

Letter in the Revenue Department dated 10th Do.

3. Having received information that Rupees or Pagodas have been counterfeited and sold to some Officers in the Company's Ships of disposing of the same in India, we acquaint you with the same in order that your attention may be turned to a subject of so much importance, which will require the utmost vigilance and exertion on your side to detect, and to prevent those consequences which may otherwise happen, it becomes necessary at the same time to inform you that we have not any knowledge of the person or the quarter from whence the information is derived, and therefore it is possible that the whole may be without foundation, although the Informant mentioned both Rupees and Pagodas, he however thinks that the fraudulent Coin consists only of Pagodas, and that their intrinsic value is about 1s. /11d. each.

4. Having resolved that Mr. Hannay late a Senior Merchant on your Establishment be permitted to return to the Company's Service, and to rank as a Senior Merchant next below Mr. John Willes, although he has been resident in England above five Years; we laid the said Resolution before the General Court of Proprietors, who unanimously approved thereof.

5. Mr. Thomas Hickey a Portrait Painter has our leave to return to Bengal.

6. We have permitted Mr. Fredrick Jacobi to return to Bengal to resume his business of a Silversmith.

\*12th as given in the original volume is copyist's mistake.

decrease the Territory of Tippoo Sultan in consequence of his unprovoked attack on an ally of the Company and that the war had been conducted with distinguished ability and success."

We have to acquaint you that on the 28th Instant the Hon'ble House of Commons came to the following further resolutions.

"Resolved that it appears from the Military Consultations 12th August 1788, that the object which the Madras Government had in view, by sending a Military Force to the Travancore Country, was to have them stationed in the place from whence they could with the greatest ease and expedition, invade Tippoo's dominions, in case such operations should be rendered necessary by the aggression of the latter against Travancore which there was at that time, strong reason to apprehend."

"Resolved that it appears that the agreement entered into by Earl Cornwallis with the Nizam in his letter of the 7th July 1789 the establishing a Military Post in the Travancore Country, and the carrying on war against Tippoo, in consequence of his unprovoked Aggression, are consonant to the wise, moderate and politic views established by the Parliament of Great Britain as the rule of Conduct to be observed in the British Settlement in India."

We are,

Your Affectionate Friends,

J. Smith Burges/F. Baring/Thos. T. Metcalfe/John Roberts/Thos. Parry/W. Bensley/Jacob Bosanquet/Abram Roberts/Paul Le Mesurier/W. Money/Simon Fraser/D. Scott/George Tatem/John Hunter/Chas. Mills/Steph. Williams/Jn. Townson/W. Elphinstone.

London  
the 11th April 1792.  
[Per Busbridge]

30

LETTER DATED 16 MAY 1792

*New appointments—rules concerning writers—list of free mariners.*

OUR Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal

1. We have appointed Francis Baring Esqr. our Chairman. John Smith Burges our Deputy Chairman, together with William Bensley, Thomas Cheap, Lionel Darell, William Devaynes, John Hunter, John Manship, John Roberts, Nathaniel Smith, and John Townson Esquires,

Robert Cunningham, John Battye, William Orme Hosea, Robert Keith Dick, William Law, Thomas Henry Ernot, William Fraser.

4. We have permitted Mr. Siman Ewart of your Civil Establishment to return without prejudice to his rank and he will proceed on the Ship Ponsborne.

5. We direct that you transmit by the first conveyance the volume of Mr. Reuben Burrow's Geographical and Astronomical observations which is mentioned in your letter of 31st January 1791 per William Pitt but omitted to be sent; In case that volume does not contain Mr. Burrow's Journal to Cheddubbe we desire a Copy may be sent.

6. We have appointed the following writers for your Presidency in further part of the number agreed to be sent thither last season. Vizt. Messrs. Henry St. George Tucker in Bengal, Henry Strachey, Joshua John Brownly Proby in India.

7. We have to acquaint you that on the 15th Instant the Hon'ble House of Commons came to the following resolutions:—

"Resolved that it appears that Earl Cornwallis's letter dated the 7th of July 1789 to the Nizam<sup>1</sup> was meant to have and has had the full force of a treaty executed in due form."

"Resolved that it appears that Lord Cornwallis in his letter to the Nizam assigned amongst the reasons for not carrying into Execution the 10th and 11th articles of the treaty of 1768 between the Nizam and the Company, first that Tippoo Sultan, had up to the date of that letter, Vizt. the 7th July 1789, given no provocation to justify a breach in the then existing peaceable and amicable understanding between him and the Company and secondly that under those circumstances a negotiation between the British Government and the Nizam tending to deprive Tippoo of any part of his possessions unprovoked on his part must naturally create suspicions in his mind unfavourable to the reputation of the Nizam and the Character of the British Government in India".

"Resolved that the declining to carry into effect the 10th and 11th Articles of the treaty with the Nizam in the year 1768 must naturally have convinced Tippoo that it was not the intention of the British Government, the Nizam and the Marattas to commence Hostilities against him unless compelled to do so by Act of Aggression on his part"

"Resolved that it appears by the latest Dispatches from India that the war was the carrying on with a view to diminish the power and

to be informed by your said Minute that all stations of trust and responsibility in the Public Offices, are held by Covenanted Servants, and that the duty of the European Monthly writers employed therein, extends to little more than the transcribing of Papers, which duty, from the Public Proceedings having become so voluminous, must for the most part devolve upon persons of this description. As however we wish the Junior part of our Servants to be regularly initiated in the knowledge of the business in the different Departments in order to qualify them for more important situations, you will continue to follow the directions contained in our letter of the 19th March 1790, for distributing them, as they arrive in the respective Offices which will enable you, as we enjoin you to do, to make a proportionate reduction in the Establishment of European Monthly writers, the expence of which we are concerned to observe, by an account made up 30th April 1790 amounted to upwards of £ 34,000 per Annum.

8. Before we quit this subject, we must signify our acquiescence for the reasons assigned on the Proceedings referred to in 27th Paragraph of your Revenue letter of the 10th August last, in the deviation from our said orders, by the appointment of several persons to be second Assistant under the Collectors.

9. The following writers for your Presidency, appointed on the list of 1789, proceed to their duty this season vizt. Messrs William Cowell, John Hamilton, James Pattle. Thomas Twining.

10. We have permitted Messrs Charles Anguish and John Brereton Birch to proceed to Bengal as Free Merchants Mr. Birch being on his way to India, we transmit Covenants to be executed by him.

11. The Portrait of his Majesty which we intended to present to Coja Cacheet Arakeel, on account of the generosity and benevolence he exhibited on the celebration of his Majesty's recovery, as mentioned in our letter dated the 28th April 1790, is forwarded to you in the Packet of the Ship Bellmont, and being informed that he is since deceased, we direct that it be presented in our name to his representative in such manner as shall best testify our sense of the Armenian's attachment to the English Sovereign.

12. In consequence of the reference in your letters of 9th January, and 10th August 1789 respecting a claim on the Estate of the late Mr. Richardson we demanded the balance due, from Sir William Dunkin, his Executor, but as that Gentleman was then about to proceed to Bengal, we received no answer from him on the subject. We therefore direct that you forthwith claim the amount due from Mr. Richardson's Estate, and if payment shall be refused, that you institute

to be the Committee of Secrecy for giving the necessary directions, respecting the safety of the Company's Shipping; the orders therefore of any three of the said Committee, respecting the same must be obeyed with the greatest punctuality.

2. Having appointed Francis Baring Esqr. Chairman, John Smith Burges Esqr. Deputy Chairman, and John Roberts Esqr. during the present direction, to be a secret Committee agreeably to and for the purposes stated in the Acts of the 24th and 26th of his present Majesty, we hereby direct that all Orders and Instructions which you shall receive from our said Secret Committee, be observed and obeyed with the same punctuality and exactness as though they had been signed by thirteen, or more members of the Court of Directors, conformably to the said Acts.

3. We have thought fit to appoint Henry Browne, Eyles Irwin, and William Jackson Esqrs. a Secret and Superintending Committee of Supra Cargos, in China.

4. Messrs. Henry Browne, John Harrison, George Cuming and Hugh Parkin are appointed a Select Committee of Supra Cargos in China and

5. Messrs. Charles Edward Pigou, Thomas Freeman, Thomas Kuyck Van-Mierop, Richard Hall, Samuel Peach, Thomas Samuel Parry, George Smith, and Francis Turnley are appointed Supra Cargos under the said Committee.

6. We have appointed fourteen writers for your Presidency this Season—We very much approve of the manner in which the writers, who arrived at Calcutta on the Ships of 1789 were distributed in the different Offices, as mentioned in your dispatch of the 12th August last; more especially, as by your resolution of the 10th September 1790, for effecting a reduction in the Establishment of the European Monthly Writers, this distribution will not be productive of any additional expense to the Company upon the arrival of the writers of the past and present season you will be able to effect further reductions in that Establishment, and we direct that you advise us from time to time of the decrease that shall be thus progressively made in the Establishment of European Monthly writers, consisting as appears by the last accounts, of no less a number than 128.

7. We concur entirely with you in the sentiments expressed in your Minute on the Revenue Consultations of the 1st April 1791 that it is by no means advisable that men not in the Service should be employed in stations of trust and importance, and are pleased therefore



further Indent to your Presidency for Grain which we think it necessary to notice for your guidance.

You will receive by the Ship Earl Talbot Sixty sets of Lieutenant Hamiltons Translation of a Commentary on the Mussulman Laws for the use of your Presidency, and we send by the said ship two Boxes for Fort St. George and One Box for Bombay containing Copies of that work for the use of those Presidencies which you will forward the first Opportunity.

We have permitted Mr. Thomas Evans to return to his Rank in our Civil Service at your Presidency.

We have appinted the Hon'ble Andrew Ramsay a Writer for your Presidency, to compleat the Number of Writers we agreed to send to Bengal last Season.

We have appointed Mr. James Thomas Grant a Writer for your Presidency in further part of the Number we agreed to send thither this Season.

Mr. Robert Cunynghame whom we appointed a Writer for your Presidency on the list of this Season being in India, we transmit Covenants to be executed by him.

We are,

Your Affectionate Friends,

F. Baring/J. Smith Burges/John Roberts  
/Nathe Smitr/J. Manship/W. Devaynes/R.  
Thornton/Stepn Williams/Paul Le Mesurier  
/J. Travers/Thos. Cheap/Lionel Darell/  
Tho. T. Metcalfe/W. Bensley.

London  
the 30th May 1792.  
[Per Earl Talbot.]

## LETTER DATED 21 SEPTEMBER 1792

*Shore appointed Governor-General and Abercrombie Commander-in-Chief.*

OUR Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. We have engaged the Ship Tartar, Burthen 160 Tons, whereof Timothy Goldsmith is Master to convey Dispatches to India a Copy of the agreement We have entered into with the owners of that Ship is

Proceedings at Law, or in Equity for recovery thereof. We return the original vouchers for your assistance in this business.

13. Having called on Mr. Goodwin for the balance of Current Rupees 43.74-13-6 that appeared due from him for Chunam delivered, he has in answer assigned certain reasons for supposing this Sum is not justly owing. We forward a Copy of his letter for your observation, and direct that you make further enquiry into the business, and transmit us the result thereof.

14. The following Persons have obtained our leave to proceed to India, as Free Mariners Vizt. John Romer Kearney, David Arnott, James Fagan, George Raitt, William Storey, Robert Gibbs, Thomas Swan Waters, John Fogo, Joshua Cooper, Thomas Baker, George Stewart, John Watson, John Donaldson Mills, John Small, William Fraser, Adam Cuppage (Abroad), Charles Walling (Abroad), Peter Maitland, Diggory Facey (Abroad), Alexander Thomson, Lawrence Dundas Campbell, Arthur Farquhar, Jacob Wade, William Shaw, Thomas Jekyll, John Tresilian Reichenberg, William Day, Thomas Cudlipp, Roger Cooper, Robert Liston.

We are,

Your Affectionate Friends,

F. Baring/J. Smith Burges/J. Manship/W.  
Devaynes/Jn. Townson/W. Bensley/Lionel  
Darell/Thos. T. Metcalfe/W. Ewer/Jacob  
Bosanquet/Stepn. Williams/John Travers/  
Tho Fitzhugh/Robt. Thornton/Wm. Money/  
Paul Le Mesurier.

London  
the 16th May 1792.  
[Per Belmont]

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LETTER DATED 30 MAY 1792

*Supply of grain to St. Helena—Hamilton's translation of the 'Commentary on the Mussulman Laws'—appointment of writers.*

OUR Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

As we have been put to very considerable expence for Freight on the supplies of Grain shipped by you for the use of our Servants at St. Helena, we have it in contemplation to furnish them with Rice or some other substitute from this Country or by some less expensive Channel, we have therefore directed them to desist from making any

"Resolved that the provisional Appointment made by order of Court the 22nd June 1791 of Thomas Graham Esqr. to be a member of the said Council of Fort William in Bengal shall not interfere with the arrangement made by the foregoing Resolution but that the said provisional appointment of the said Thomas Graham Esqr. shall be and is hereby suspended till the said arrangement shall have taken place and he must retire for that purpose if he shall have taken his Seat in Council in consequence of the said Provisional appointment of the 22nd, June 1791.

And in case Mr. Graham shall have succeeded to a Seat in Council before the Receipt of these Orders.

Resolved that upon his retiring from thence for the purpose of these Regulations, he shall return to his preceding Office or Station in the Service".

We are,

Your Affectionate Friends,

F. Baring/J. Shmith Burges/W. Devaynes/  
Nath: Smith/ W. Bensley/ Jn. Townson/  
W. Ewer/Thos. Cheap/ Steph. Lushing-  
ton/John Travers/ Hugh Inglis/ Paul Le  
Mesurier/John Roberts.

London

the 21st September 1792.  
[Triplicate. Per Triton]

33

LETTER DATED 21 SEPTEMBER 1792

*Abercrombie made K.C.O.B.*

OUR Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. We have received a Letter from the Right Hon'ble Henry Dundas one of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State a Copy whereof is enclosed acquainting us that the King has been pleased as a mark of his Royal approbation of the Services of Major General Abercromby to nominate him to be one of the Knights Companions of the Most Honourable order of the Bath, & to direct that the Marquis Cornwallis provided it can conveniently be done during his continuance in India shall invest him with the Ensigns of that order which will be sent out by the Packet now under dispatch. But as it is probable that his Lordship may leave India before an opportunity shall be afforded to him for performing that ceremony and in case of

enclosed for your information and guidance. It will however be necessary to point out to your particular notice, that the Captain should be acquainted within 5 days whether you mean to discharge him the Service or to return the Ship to Europe with a Loading of 150 Tons of Salt Petre and Sugar if you should be enabled to comply with the latter every Dispatch must be used to complete the same within the stipulated Space of 30 days from her arrival in Bengal.

2. Having taken into our Consideration the State of the Civil and Military Government of Bengal and the probability of a vacancy happening in the several Offices of Governor General of Fort William in Bengal and of Commander in Chief of the Company's Forces in India by the Most Noble The Marquis Cornwallis, the present Governor General and Commander in Chief returning home; And also considering the distinguished merit of John Shore Esqr. in the superior station he has heretofore held in the Government of Bengal We have come to the following Resolutions

"Resolved that upon a vacancy happening in the Office of Governor General of Fort William in Bengal, by the Death or Resignation, or coming away of The Most Noble the Marquis Cornwallis, the present Governor General, the said John Shore Esqr. be appointed to that Office."

"Resolved that John Shore Esqr. be allowed the sum of ten thousand Current Rupees Per month from the day of his Embarkation until his succession to the Government General of Bengal".

"With respect to the Office of Commander in Chief of the Company's Forces in India".

"Resolved that upon a vacancy happening in that Office by the Death Resignation or coming away of the said Marquis Cornwallis, Major General Sir Robert Abercromby K. B. the present Governor of Bombay and Commander in Chief of the Company's Forces in that Presidency, be appointed Commander in Chief of the Company's Forces in India".

"Resolved that Major General Sir Robert Abercromby Commander in Chief of the Company's Forces in India be appointed a Councillor of the Council of Fort William in Bengal and that he succeed to that Office upon the first vacancy which shall happen in the said Council by the Death, Resignation, or Removal of the Hon'ble Chas. Stuart, Peter Speke and William Cowper Esqrs. or either of them and shall take his Seat at the board next to the Person acting as Governor General for the time being".

in India for their gallant Conduct and essential Service rendered their Country during the successful War against Tippoo Sultan.

"Resolved unanimously that the freedom of this City be presented to the Marquis Cornwallis Commander in Chief of the Forces in the East Indies as a Testimony of the high esteem of the Citizens of London for his Lordships gallant conduct and essential Service whereby glorious and important advantages have been obtained by the Forces to provide the Gold Box on the Occasion.

"Resolved unanimously that the said Freedom be presented to the Marquis Cornwallis in a Gold Box of the Value of One hundred Guineas and that the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor be requested to provide the Gold Box on the Occasion.

"Resolved unanimously that the Freedom of this City be presented to Major General William Medows K. B., who acted as second in Command under the Marquis Cornwallis as a Testimony of the high esteem of the Citizens of London for the glorious and important advantages gained by the British Forces in the East Indies aided by his gallant conduct.

"Resolved unanimously that the said Freedom be presented to Major General William Medows, K. B. in a Gold box of the value of Eighty Guineas and that the Right Honorable the Lord Mayor be requested to provide the Gold Box on the Occasion.

"Ordered that these Resolutions be fairly transcribed and signed by the Town Clerk and delivered to Mr. Alderman Le Mesurier with the request of this Court to the Court of Directors of the India Company to transmit them to the East India."

2. Having resolved unanimously that Mr. Jacob Rider be restored to the Company's Service, we communicated the said Resolution to the General Court of Proprietors who unanimously concurred with us therein by a Vote passed agreeably to Act of Parliament.

We are,

Your Affectionate Friends,

F. Baring/J. Smith Burges/ John Hunter/  
John Roberts/W. Devaynes/ J. Manship/  
Thos. Cheap/W. Bensley/T. Patile/  
Stepn. Williams/ Thos. T. Metcalfe/Jn.  
Townson/ John Travers/Lionel Darell/  
[Triplicate. Per Berrington] W. Ewer/Paul Le Mesurier.

London

the 10th October 1792.

that event His Majesty is desirous it should be done by Sir Charles Oakeley but if either by the Major Generals absence from Madras or from any other cause any difficulty or delay should be likely to arise in carrying His Majesty's gracious intentions towards him into execution by the means pointed out in Mr. Dundas Letter His Majesty is desirous that the ceremony shall then be performed by Sir Charles Malet our Resident at Poona.

2. We therefore direct in obedience to His Majesty's Commands that provided the Marquis Cornwallis shall not be able to invest Major General Abercromby with the Ensigns of the Order of the Bath and that if Major General Abercromby should be at Madras on the Receipts hereof Sir Charles Oakeley do perform the ceremony of Investiture but if eventually Sir Charles Malet should be called upon to performed that ceremony he must be ordered to leave the Court of Poona & repair to Bombay for that purpose.

We are,

Your Affectionate Friends,

London  
the 21st September 1792.  
[Duplicate. Per Swallow]

F. Baring/J. Smith Burges/W. Devaynes/  
Steph. Lushington/Jn. Townson/ Wm.  
Money/John Travers/P. Le Mesurier/  
Nath. Smith/Thos. Cheap/T. Pattle/ Hugh  
Inglis/W. Ewer/W. Bensley/John Roberts.

34

## LETTER DATED 10 OCTOBER 1792

*Freedom of the City of London presented to Cornwallis and Medows.*

OUR Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. We have the pleasure to transmit to you the following Resolutions of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Common Council of the City of London in Common Council assembled, viz.

"A Common Council holden in the Chamber of the Guildhall of the City of London on Thursday the fourth day of October 1792.

"Resolved unanimously that the thanks of this Court be given to the Marquis Cornwallis, Majors General Medows and Abercromby and the Officers and Soldiers serving under the Marquis's Command

5. And Mr. Richard Parry who was not in that Season of the Age prescribed by Act of Parliament is to rank immediately before the Writers of the Season 1791.

6. We have appointed Mr. William Ramsay our Secretary in the room of Mr. Thomas Morton decd. and Mr. Isaac Maddocks to succeed Mr. Ramsay as Assistant Secretary.

We are,

Your affectionate Friends,

F. Baring/ J. Smith Burges/Lionel Darell/  
Thos. T. Metcalfe/ Stepn. Williams/Wm.  
Money/Jn. Townson/W. Bensley/W. El-  
phinstone/John Travers/W. Ewer/Thos.  
[Duplicate. Per *Berrington*.] Cheap/Hugh Inglis/T. Pattle/John Roberts.

London

12th December 1792.

## LETTER DATED 12 DECEMBER 1792

*Appointment of Shore and Abercrombie—rank of new writers.*

OUR Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. We wrote two Letters to you in this Department dated the 21st September which were transmitted in Duplicate by the Ships Tartar and Swallow by the latter we also wrote to you under date of the 10th October.

2. We have received the following Advices from your Presidency's vizt.

Letters in the Public Department dated 25th Novr. 1791, 25th Jan'y and 27th April 1792.

Letters in the Public Department dated 1st Decr. 1791 & 25th Jan'y 8th April 1792.

Letters in the Foreign Department dated 25th Novr. 1791, 25th Jan'y & 8th April 1792.

Letters in the Revenue Department dated 10th March 1792.

Letters from the Hon'ble Chas. Stuart to the Chairman dated 12th & 13th December 1791.

3. We transmitted by the Ship Swallow a Commission constituting and appointing the Governor General and Council at our Presidency of Fort William in Bengal also a Commission constituting and Sir John Shore-Bart. Governor and Commander in Chief of the Fort & Garrison of For William and the Town of Calcutta & a Commission constituting & appointing Major-Genl. Sir Robt. Abercromby K. B. Commander in Chief of the Company's Forces in the East Indies, and we now enclose a Copy of the said Commissions.

4. The Writers appointed for your Presidency on the list of the Season 1790 are to take rank in the following order. Vizt. The Hon' Herbert Windsor Stuart, Messrs. Hy. St. Geo: Tucker, John Ryley, James Rattray, Wm. Egerton, James Stuart, Thos. Stanhope Hollond, Hy. Emanuel Sutterloh, Richard Ahmuty, Henry Strachey; The Hon. Andrew Ramsay, Messrs Charles Buller, Charles Milner Ricketts, Joshua Jno. Brownlow Proby, John Stracey.



## LETTERS TO COURT

## LETTER DATED 9 JANUARY 1789

*Report on Guntur Sarkar—Montigny to succeed Mottet as French Agent in Bengal—Forster recalled from Nagpur—proposal to put all foreign nations on a footing of equality in regard to opium and salt-petre—remittance to Bombay—investment for inaigo—Marsh appointed to investigate resources of Sylhet—Kyd's request for land—allowance to Nadia Zamindar—affairs of Benares—salt—grain—robberies.*

To the Court of Directors.

Hon'ble Sirs,

1. Your Ships *Manship* and *Triton* were quitted by their Pilots on the 28th & 30th. *Ultimo*, and the *Airly Castle* has been dispatched to Fort St. George and Fort Marlbro'.

2. We have now the Honor to dispatch to You the *Kent*, Captain *Hardinge*, and by her we send a Continuation of our Proceedings in this Department for the Month of December with an Index.

3. We have already advised You of the Success of our Negotiations for the Restitution of the *Guntoor Circar* which has Since remained in our Possession without alarms or disturbance. The adjustment of the Accounts between the Company and the *Nizam* remains Still to be effected, & he has made this a pretence for deputing to Bengal a Minister, named *Meer Abul Cossim*, who has left *Hydrabad* & is now on his Way to this Presidency. This Deputation, which has no precedent, may be considered as a declared and conspicuous proof that the good Understanding between his Highness and the Company has not been affected by our Measures relative to the *Guntoor [Sic] Circar*.

4. The Continuance of *Mr. Forster* at *Nagpore* being no longer necessary, we have desired him to take leave of the *Rajah*, to whom a Suitable Letter has been addressed on the occasion. *Ragojee Boosla* has professed every Inclination to improve the Friendship between us.

5. The River near *Anoopshur* having become fordable a Detachment of the Company's Troops usually ordered at this Season has been sent there by the desire of the *Vizier*, not on Account of any present Danger of a visit from the *Sieks*, but to preclude their attempting any Predatory Incursion, which the Absence of Oppositions might induce them to make.

## Bombay

11. Our Advertizement for a Remittance to Bombay produced only One Tender to the amount of Rs. 50,000. Our Endeavours to effect further Supplies to Your Government there, thro' other Channels, shall not be wanting tho' we greatly Apprehend that Bills cannot be obtained in Bengal at an Exchange more advantageous to the Company than was required on the Bills which were lately procured from the Shroffs.

12. We have written to Bombay requesting to be furnished with their Sentiments whether Calcutta Gold Mohurs sent Round by Sea would be a less disadvantageous Remittance than the Bills drawn by the Shroffs, and whether they would be convenient as a Circulating Medium at Bombay. We shall be guided by their Answer in the Adoption or Rejection of this mode of Supply. The great Proportion of Gold to the Silver in Circulation in Bengal would make this Mode of Supply if practicable, particularly eligible.

## Commercial &amp; Shipping

13. Our Advertizement for private Goods to fill up the unoccupied Tonnage in Your Ships produced Several Applications from Individuals, but to a less Amount than was expected. We have admitted these Applications; and as it was necessary to encourage further Tenders of Goods on private Freight, we have published another Advertizement Setting forth that any Tenders made to our Secretary (excepting of Raw Silk) by the 10th. Instant would be accepted as far as the unemployed Tonnage Should allow.

14. We forward to You a Number in this Packet a Copy of a Minute delivered in Council by the Governor General containing the General Out-lines of Plans for introducing the Article of Indigo into Your Investment for the present Year. Under the Considerations Set forth by his Lordship. We were desirous that the Idea should be adopted, if possible and therefore referred the Subject to the Board of Trade with Directions, after an attentive Review of it, to prepare and lay before us such Conditions and Limitations as might Appear to them necessary previous to the Publication of our Intentions.

15. The Report from Your Board of Trade, and a Copy of the advertisement which we have published in Consequence, are forwarded to You in the present Dispatch.

Comm. 5th Jan.

Dispatch

6. We are advised by Mr. Mottet, the French Agent in Bengal, that he is about to leave his Station, in which he will be Succeeded by Mr. Montigny, who left Pondicherry on the 1st. of November intending to come here by Land. Mr. Montigny is the same Person who resided for Several Months at Poona.

7. In Consequence of the 3d. Article of the Convention with France, which Stipulates that the Price to be paid by the French for their Annual Supply of Opium and Salt Petre shall be the same as that established before the late War, we have directed that this Should be Observed in the Supply of the present Year, and in future. The Dutch and Danes will Continue to Pay for these articles as they have paid heretofore.

8. It might be of some convenience if all the Foreign Nations were placed on the same footing of Equality with regard to these supplies; but this can only be effected either by raising the rates of the Articles furnished to the Dutch and Danes to the standard prescribed in the Treaty with the French, or by reducing the Price demanded from the latter—to the rates paid by the other Foreigners. To this last mentioned alternative as a deviation from Treaty there appears to us an unsurmountable Objection. Whether the former should be adopted or not remains for Your Consideration.

#### Fort St. George

9. In addition to the Fort St. George Remittance, as advised in our Letter of the 22d. Ultimo, we have made an advance to the amount of A. Rs. 40,000 to Captain Gregorie for his Bills, countersigned by Mr. Fergusson, at an Exchange, which is calculated by Your Accountant General to be equally favourable to the Company as the Bills drawn upon this Government from Fort St. George.

10. We are much concerned to observe, in a Letter addressed to the Governor General by Sir Archibald Campbell that a Scarcity of Grain is Apprehended on the Coast from want of Rain in different Parts of the Country. Notwithstanding the favorable appearance of the late Crops, We have still some Doubts whether they will supply a sufficient Stock to admit of our taking off the Embargo on the Exportation. A Particular Enquiry, however, into the State of the Several Districts with Respect to Grain is making, and we shall be happy if the Result Should allow us to adopt Measures for the Relief of the Wants Apprehended at Fort St. George.

21. At the Suggestion of Lieutenant Colonel Kyd, whose Letter on this Subject is recorded in our Proceedings of the 15th. December, We have authorized him to employ Mr. B. Marsh on a Research into the mineral, Vegetable, and Animal Productions of the Silhet Province with an Allowance of Sa. Rs. 250. Pr. Month for his Trouble and Expence. Mr. Marsh, who is deemed perfectly qualified for this Undertaking, will be furnished by Colonel Kyd with Instructions for his Guidance, and the Period of his Employ will be regulated by the Reports which will be made to us of his Progress and Success.

22. Lientenant Colonel Kyd, whose Zeal and assiduity in promoting Botanical Researches & Improvements is unintermitted, has also made a tender to the Hon'ble Company of some Ground adjoining to the Botanical Garden, which was granted to him some Years ago on Condition that it should be put into a State of Cultivation, and pay an annual Rent. The Expense incurred on that Account is estimated at Rs. 17,000 which in the event of future necessity in the Decline of Life Colonel Kyd's intimates may give him a Claim to assistance from the Hon'ble Company.

23. The Tender of Ground We have Received with Acknowledgements, but with Respect to the Intimation for future Recompence We have expressed to him that it depend entirely upon Your Hon'ble Court.

24. Mr. George Nesbith Thompson who has been the Company's Senior Counsel for a considerable Time, & has acted in that Office much to our Satisfaction, proceeds to England in the Kent, induced thereto by the State of his Health which requires a Change of Climate.

25. You will receive in this Packet a Copy of a Report Submitted to us by the Committee for investigating and recovering outstanding Balances relative to a claim on the Estate of the late Mr. Henry Richardson. Mr. Dunkin, one of the Executors of Mr. Richardson's Will, has been directed to lay before us his Observations on this Subject, and these, when received, will be sent to the Accountant General that he may report to us upon it. We hope therefore to be enabled to transmit to you by a future Dispatch more accurate Information concerning the Demand than is at present in our power. We Should not have drawn Your Attention to it at this time, if we had not thought it possible that our omitting to forward to You the Committee's Report immediately might increase the difficulty, to which Your Officers in England may yet be Subject in Substantiating a Claim which Originates in transactions of a distant Date.

16. Our Proceedings noted in the Margin contain a Letter from Your Resident at Benares, Setting forth the actual Expence that must be incurred by continuing the Supply of Salt-Petre from that Zemindarry on the Company's Account. We have referred the Subject to Your Board of Trade for their Opinion how far it would be advantageous to the Company to purchase it at the Price Specified. Their Information will determine our Resolutions on the Subject.

17. We are Sorry to acquaint You with the Death of Mr. Robert Lindsay of this Establishment. He was employed as Second assistant to the Commercial Resident at Dacca, and is Succeeded in that Appointment by Mr. Christopher Roberts.

#### Company's Servants

18. Mr. Wm. Webber and Mr. Joshua Williams have been permitted to resign Your Service and proceed to Europe in the Kent, the former on account of his Health, which has Suffered during his last residence in India, and in the Step which it has required him to take, will deprive us of the benefit we should have been happy to have received from his Service when a proper Occasion Offered. Mr. Williams goes to Europe on his private Concerns to which Circumstance of his being removed from employment by a general Measure; the abolition of the Government Customs, allows him to pay this attention. The good Opinion which we entertain of both Gentlemen induces us to request that they may have leave to return to Bengal without prejudice to their Rank on their Applications for that purpose.

#### Miscellaneous

19. A Petition from many of the Principal Native Inhabitants of Calcutta, in Consequence of the numerous Robberies and Outrages which have been lately committed, has induced us to Constitute a Committee, consisting of Messrs. Ross, Bayard and Birch, of our Civil Establishment, to enquire into the State of the Police & the Conduct of the Business of it, & to propose such Plan for the better arrangement of it as might appear to them Practicable. The Instructions furnished for their Guidance are recorded in our Proceedings of the 17th. Ultimo.

20. Several further Address respecting Mr. Hastings which were either forwarded by the Collectors or presented by Native Vakeels to the Governor General, having been translated pursuant to our Orders are now transmitted in the Packet of the Kent. We also forward an address from the Greeks, with a Translation of it.

31. It appearing from the Letters of the Collector of Nuddea, recorded on our Proceedings of the 16th. July last, that the Family of the Zemindar of that District have  
 Consn. 3 Decr. been reduced to the greatest distress since the dis-  
 24 Decr continuation of the late Rajah's Mashaira in 1193. and the annual Stipend we have lately Granted to the present Rajah, after deducting the proportion of it appropriated to the payment of the balances due from the Zemindary to Government, being barely Sufficient for his own immediate expences, we have accordingly granted an allowance of one thousand Rupees P. Month to Sumboo Chund, and two hundred & fifty Rupees P. Month to Mahees Chund & Eshaun Chund, the Uncles of the present Zemindar, and two hundred & fifty Rupees P. Month to the mother of Sumboo Chund, to be paid to them respectively from the Commencement of the Current Bengal Year, and continued to them till the management of the Zemindary shall revert to the Rajah, who will then become responsible for the charges of the Maintenance of his family and relations.

## Benares

32. We beg leave to transmit to you a Separate number in the Packet a Copy of a Letter from the Resident at  
 Consn. 23d. Octr. Benaras at the present State and future management of the Revenues and We must entreat Your particular Attention to it as it contains the Facts & Arguments upon which We have been induced to authorize a more minute & direct Interference in the Affairs of that Zemindary, whether financial or Judicial, than has heretofore been practised.

33. Considering the Agreement between the Company and the Rajah of Benares to be conclusive as to the amount which we are entitled to demand from him, our attention has been directed to the Statements of the Revenues of this Province as transmitted by the Resident, principally with a view to ascertain whether they afford Sufficient funds to enable the Rajah to make good the amount of his engagements, agreeable to Your Orders upon this Subject under date the 12th. of April 1786. For although he is bound by them to the payment of a Specific Sum, we are fully convinced that it would be equally unjust and impolitic to exact with rigour what he could not discharge without personal distress or injury to the Country.

34. As a basis for this consideration we adopted the account exhibiting the Gross Mofussil Rental, Collections and Balances of that part of the Revenue funds of Benaras Applicable to the Payment of the Public Rental to this Government, which contains the foundation of your Revenue dependance from Benares.

26. You will also Receive herewith Copies of the Demand made by the Company's Attorney upon Mr. Dunkin and of his Reply thereto.

### Revenue Department

27. We have the honor to transmit to You the broken Set of our Proceedings in this Department from the beginning of October to the end of December 1788.

### Land Revenues

28. You will find Recorded on our Proceedings of the 29th October a Statement of Bengal for the Year 1194, compared with that of 1193, from which it appears that, including the unauthorized Remission of Rupees 48,003 in Buldacaúl, [*sic*] the Jumma of this Province for 1194, on a comparison with that of 1193, has encreased to the amount of Sa. Rs. 31,657.2.11.1. exclusive of Rupees 41,987. 11.4.2. Suspended. The comparative account of the Settlement of the Behar and Orissa Districts for 1194 and 1195 Fussily & Velaity, when laid before us, Shall be pointed out to Your Notice.

29. Having taken into further consideration the claims of Rajah Ramkishun, Zemindar of Rajeshahee to Mashairah  
 Consn. 12 Novr. as recorded on our Proceedings of the 20th. August  
 21 Novr. last, and being of Opinion that Zemindars deprived of the Management of their lands are entitled to an allowance either in land or money for their Subsistance, we have accordingly determined to allow Rajah Ramkishun the sum of 5 Pr. Cent on the amount of the Annual net Collections of his Zemindary, the same to be paid to him from the period his Lands have been held Khass, and Continued to him till he shall be restored to the management of his Zemindary. For the present we have directed that the arrears of the Rajah's Moshairah, together with the amount thereof as it may become due to him in future, shall be Appropriated to the payment of the balances due from the Zemindary to Government.

30. Having passed a decision upon the Reports of the Commissioners deputed to Rungpore to enquire into the  
 Consn. 26th. Novr conduct of Rajah Davy Singh, farmer of t hat Dist-  
 1st. Decr.. rict & of Dinagepore during the Bengal Years 1188 & 1189 Entered on our Proceedings of the 29th. March 1787 we transmit to you a Copy of our Resolutions a Separate Number in the Packet, and beg leave to refer You for further particulars regarding this investigation to our Minutes recorded on our Proceedings of the 26th. November and 1st. December.



40. From an attentive examination of the Statements above mentioned it appeared to us that the Rajah had no available resources from which he could discharge the balances of 1191/92/&/93, amounting in the aggregate to Rupees 3,14,655-2. We accordingly directed the Resident to Suspend the demand for them, and trust that upon consideration of these Circumstances You will be induced to relinquish the amount.

41. In considering the measures to be adopted for the future management of the Country, it was a matter of great disappointment to us to find the Rajah so incapable of comprehending the Propriety and necessity of a Total reform, and of carrying it into execution. The object, however, was of too great importance to be sacrificed to considerations of delicacy. The disorders which prevailed were too many and Serious to be disregarded, and if the continuance of them had been permitted, the Consequences must have been highly prejudicial to Your Interests in Benares, and have involved the Rajah himself in that distress which we conceive it incumbent on us to anticipate and guard against.

42. We accordingly authorized the Resident to take upon himself the entire conduct and formation of the new Settlement for 1196, or 1788/9, according to the Plan proposed by him, availing himself of the Rajah's interposition no further than he might think proper. We at the same time, however, acquainted him that it was not our intention by these orders to renounce the original principle of the Instructions communicated to him for the restoration of the Rajah to the fullest possible exercise of the functions of his Station, On the contrary, that we considered it as a leading principle in our political connection with the Rajah which we should ever be happy to revert to when he should be capable of acting by himself, but that we had determined to Suspend the operation of it in the arrangements of 1196 as they were to become the basis of a permanent and regular System. We also informed the Resident that we did not wish to exclude the Rajah from a Share in the executive management if he could be usefully employed either for the establishment of this System or for his own instruction, or with a view to the preservation of his consequence; but that we left it to him to form his own judgement upon these points, and to carry the arrangements into effect either with or without the Rajah's interference as he might think proper, and most conducive to the proposed object, that of the public good.

43. The due administration of justice in regard to the Collection of the Revenues, and the Regulation of the Rajah's Moolky Adawlut appeared to us essentially necessary for the full establishment of the

35. The clearness and accuracy with which these Statements are drawn render it necessary only for us to State to You the Result, *Viz.*, that the ways and means for discharging the sum of Rupees 38,42,689-14-6. payable by the Rajah to the Company amount for the Year 1195, ending in September 1788, to Rupees 40,11,076.11. The difference in favour of the Rajah by this Statement is 1,68,386-12-6.

36. This Result being formed upon the actual Receipts and providing for oil Charges of Collections as well as for the losses Sustained, by the abolition of the duties, the only deduction to which it is further liable myself [*sic*] arise from a failure in the Mofussil payments of Revenue beyond the average Rate of the annual balances, which form no part of the present computation. You will observe that this has already taken place to the amount of 1,88,256-13-3 but the result is drawn exclusive at this deficiency.

37. The amount of the Rajah's Jagheers including the profits upon them, is Rupees 3,12,358. This Sum added to the Surplus above Stated, leaves to the Rajah an income for his personal and family expences of Rs. 4,80,744-12-6 Supposing the produce of his Jagheer to be given clear of all Charges.

38. With a view to ascertain how far this Sum may be adequate for the above purposes, we have called upon the Resident for his Opinion, formed upon the best estimate he can make of the Rajah's expences without requiring from him the particulars, whether the Fund of 4,80,744-12-6 according to the calculation here Stated Affords a Sufficient Supply for his convenience and dignity, and what Surplus may Remain for accumulation, and whether the Style of the expences may in general be deemed extravagant or less than what is Suitable to his rank and Situation.

39. With Respect to the Settlement of 1195, or 1787/8, the Amount of it being 42,85,360, clear of all Charges of Collections, and allowing for the Reductions in the Customs, is certainly a Sufficient fund for providing the Governments Revenue, admitting even the Medium deficiency in the Collections of the three preceding Years, estimated at 2,200,000. Rupees, to take place. How far the truth may exceed or fall short of the estimate, we shall be the better enabled to Judge when we have Received an account of the Collections of the Year, and we shall then decide upon the Propriety of affording the Rajah relief. For the present, we shall only observe to You that the Resident has since informed us that the whole of the Revenues payable by the Rajah to Government for 1195 has been realised.

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48. The Comptroller of the Salt Manufacture having prepared a Code of Regulations for the conduct of the business of the Salt Department agreeable to our Orders of the 24th. September last (communicated to You in our Letter of the 6th. November following by the William Pitt) and added thereto some further articles for our Consideration, and the Board of Revenue having Submitted the same to us with their Remarks upon the whole, We thought proper to frame therefrom two sets of Regulations, one to be considered as Permanent rules for the conduct of the Salt Agents, and the other adapted for Publication, containing such Extracts from the instructions to the Agents as were immediately necessary for the information of the Molungees and others employed in the Manufacture or provision of Salt. Both these sets of Regulation are recorded on our Proceedings of the 10th December.

49. In the Letter You will perceive some Modification of the First regulation as it Stands in the Instructions to the Agents, which we were induced to make for the following reasons.

50. It appeared to us upon further deliberation, and from the representations Submitted to us by the Comptroller, that the Publication of the first Regulation in its original form might be productive of considerable detriment to the Manufacture by affording to individuals a pretext for departing from engagements which they had voluntarily entered into at the Commencement of the Year. We accordingly determined that the first regulation should be published with such Modifications as might guard against this evil, and on the other hand afford the intended relief to those who might have been compelled to engage either for the manufacture or provision of Salt for the Present Year.

51. We at the same time informed the Agents that, in passing the above resolution, it was not our intention to deviate in any respect from the Principles which we had laid down for the conduct of the Salt Manufacture, on the contrary that we enjoined them to adhere Strictly to the Spirit of the first and every other article of the Regulations framed for their guidance, not only in future Years, but also to give them full force and operation in every instance which might come to their Knowledge of persons having been compelled to engage for the Provision or manufacture of Salt for the current Season, and also in all other cases to which they might have any Relation.

52. As the reasons, however, which induced us to Publish these Regulations under this Modified form will no longer exist at the Expiration of the present Year, we have acquainted the Board of

other parts of the proposed reform. We accordingly approved of the institution of a Court of Revenue jurisdiction under the Regulations suggested by the Resident and directed him to proceed without delay to the Reform of the Rajah's Moolky Adawlut.

44. For further Information regarding these arrangements, we beg leave to refer You to our orders to the Resident of Benares, which transmits to You a Separate Number in the Packet, and to the other Papers and Documents recorded on our Proceedings of the 3rd October.

45. We hope that the tendency of our Measures with respect to Benares will in the course of Time impress a Conviction upon the Rajah, that We have no objection but the Regulation of his Zemindary, the Benefits of which he will himself reap. The Sentiments Expressed in his Letter to the Governor General recorded on our Proceedings of the 3rd. December confirm us in this expectation, the Advantages which the Company may expect from the Interference which We have authorized, are Security in the Stipulated amount of the Rajah's Payments, and new Credit. The Conduct of Mr. Duncan has obtained the Confidence and Approbation of all Classes.

46. It is with concern we acquaint You that the Periodical rains have failed in Benares both in the beginning and latter end of the Season, and that grain already bears a very high price in that District. The Resident has given us reason to hope that the Scarcity will not be so great as to occasion a famine. The measures we have authorized him to take to avert this calamity will appear on our Proceedings noted in the Margin, and upon receipt of the replies of the Several Collectors within the Provinces, to the references we have directed to be made to them Regarding the State of the Crops in their Respective districts, we shall lose no time in affording such relief to the Inhabitants of the Zemindary of Benares as may be in our Power.

### Salt

47. Agreeable to the desire of Mr. James Grant we transmit to You a Separate Number in the Packet Copy of a Letter from him with comparative Statements of the Revenues arising from the Salt Districts for Six Years preceding and an equal period Subsequent to the introduction of the present System of management of the Salt Manufacture, & we have not Yet taken this Letter into consideration but shall transmit to You our Sentiments thereon by a future opportunity.

56. Lieutenant Parlbby having declined entering into engagements for the repairs of the Pools of Luskerpore Bettoreah Consn. 22nd. Decr. and Boosrah on the terms of his Agreement for last Year, we have published an advertisement for Proposals of Contract for the repairs of these embankments for the ensuing Season.

### Grain

57. It is with Satisfaction we acquaint you that the Crops throughout the three Provinces, as far as we are enabled to judge from the accounts hitherto transmitted to us, have in general been plentiful, and that Rice is now fallen to a moderate price Previous however to taking off the embargo on the exportation of Grain by Sea, we have deemed it advisable to call upon the Board of Revenue for more particular information on the State of the Crops (*sic*) in the Several Districts. We were further induced to Suspend this measure in order that we might obtain more certain intelligence how far the Apprehended Scarcity of Grain in the Zemindary of Benares and the countries to the westward might affect the price of that article within the provinces, and whether the quantity we might be able to Spare for exportation would be more than Sufficient for the relief of their Necessities.

58. The Many robberies lately Committed by the Dackoits in the Sundurbans having attracted our Serious Notice, Consn. 19 Novr. we thought proper to depute Mr. Henry Lodge with a Special Commission to take the necessary measures for Suppressing the depredations of those freebooters, and discovering and apprehending the persons concerned with them, and also to Suggest such measures as he might deem best calculated for the future protection of that navigation. Any further Steps we may deem it advisable to take to effect this Object shall be pointed out to You at a future Opportunity. Should we judge them deserving Your Attention. Our Instructions to Mr. Lodge are recorded on the Proceedings noted in the Margin.

59. A List of the Appointments which have taken place in this Department from the beginning of October to the End of December is transmitted a Separate Number in the Packet.

60 The State of the Treasury is as follows :—

Ready Money			
Gold Mohurs	24,262-8-0	3,88,200-0-0	4,50,312-0-0
Siccaas	...	2,06,715-15-2	2,39,790-8-0
Copper Coin	...	2,679-0-0	3,107-10-3
			<u>6,93,210-2-3</u>

Revenue that they are to be considered as in force only for that period, and have directed them, previous to the arrival of the time for making the advances for the ensuing Season, to prepare and Submit to us a new Code of Regulations for Publication declaring in the most full and explicit terms the Principles on which we have determined that the Salt Manufacture Shall be conducted as laid down in the instructions to the Agents, in order that the same may be made Public, and all persons now employed in the Manufacture or provision of Salt may renew their engagements or not in future according as they may think proper.

53. The Price of Salt having contrary to our expectations, continued at a very enhanced Rate, and apprehending that it might rise still higher in consequence of the deficiency of the produce of the last Season, unless further measures were taken for increasing the Quantity in the market, we accordingly advertised for Proposals of Contract for the delivery of Six Lacks of Maunds of Coast Salt at Calcutta between the 1st. May and 1st. October 1789. The importation of this Quantity, added to the three Lacks of Maunds which Mr. Tyler has Contracted to deliver as notified to You in our address of the 6th. November by the William Pitt, will we hope be the means of reducing the price of this article to a moderate Standard.

54. A Sale of 3,92,437 Maunds of Salt took place on the 1st. of October, and of 1,65,000 Maunds on the 22d. of December, The average of the former Sale was Sicca Rupees 384.11.1. and of the latter Rs. 354.13-8 p Hundred Maunds, and we have every Reason to believe that the reduction of the Price at the Second Sale has in great measure been occasioned by the abovementioned advertisement for the importation of Salt from the Coast of Coromandel.

#### Poolbundy

55. The violence of the Torrents at the Commencement of the late rainy Season having thrown up a bank of Sand  
 Consn. 5th. Novr. across the bed of the River Teestah in Dinagepore.  
 17 Decr. the waters being obstructed in their passage, overflowed the banks, and opening a new Channel found their way into the Goggat, a small river running through Rungpore, in consequence of which that District has been inundated during a considerable part of the Year to the great injury of the Inhabitants and loss to Government. We have accordingly deputed Lieutenant Parlby and Mr. Thomas Lyon to the Spot to ascertain the works necessary for restoring the Teestah to its former channel, and have directed the former Gentleman to proceed to the Construction of them without delay, in order that they may be completed before the commencement of the ensuing Rains.



Statement of the Reductions and Augmentations which have been taken place in the Establishments of Fort William Presidency in consequence of the Arrangements Authorized by our Resolution in the Secret and Separate Department.

Statement of the Difference between the Sum which would have been paid to the Agent for the Supply of Stationary Supposing him to have Purchased the Same Quantity at the average of those purchased by Messrs. Tomlinson and Dashwood in 1784.51785.6. 1786.7. and 1787.8. at the Prices last charged by Mr. Dashwood and what will be to be paid to the Contractor Mr. Robt. Campbell.

We have the Honour to be  
with great respect.

Fort William  
14th. January 1789.  
[Per Kent.]

Hon'ble Sirs,  
Your most faithful humble Servants

3

# LETTER DATED 10 MARCH 1789

*Fire in new store rooms of arsenal.*

TO the Hon'ble Court of Directors.

Hon'ble Sirs,

We are much concerned to acquaint You that a Fire has happened in the new Store Room of the Arsenal of Fort Willam, which has consumed a large Proportion of the Stores that were deposited in them. It broke out at about 2 O'Clock in the Morning of Yesterday, and, notwithstanding every Effort made to stop it, continued for five Hours. The cause of it is not yet known, and it is not very probable that we shall be able to discover it. We estimate the Loss which the Company sustain by the Fire to be something less than three Lacks of Rupees, besides the value of the Building.

Fort William  
10th. March, 1789.  
[per Northumberland.]

We have the Honour to be & ca.

Bills Receivable	Sa. Rs. 3,70,771-13-11	4,30,095-5-10
		<hr/>
Current Rupees		11,23,305-8-1
Balance Account Deposits	1,31,903-3-4	
Do. Account. General to the Mayor's Court	1,16,918-3-3	
Do. of the Old Bonded debt on which the Interest has ceased by Public Advertisement	36,102-0-2	
New Bonded Debt @ 8 P Cent	1,16,40,278-10-2	
Do. Do. Do. Acct. Madras Military arrears	38,80,263-13-10	
Do. Do. Do. Acct. Bombay Military Arrears	15,06,407-11-2	
4 Pr Cent Remittance Loan	20,000-0-0	
		<hr/>
		1,73,31,873-9-11

Fort William  
the 9th. January 1789.

We have the honor to be & ca.

2

LETTER DATED 14 JANUARY 1789

*Reductions and augmentations in Bengal establishments—stationery.*

TO the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.  
Hon'ble Sirs,

In the Expectation that dispatches now sent down for the Kent will reach that Ship before she sails we think it proper to forward to you the following Statements which would have been transmitted to you by the first Packet, if they had been completed when it was sent away.

## Dutch

51. We have the Honor to transmit to you a number in the Packet Copy of a Minute from the Governor General, on the Subject of a desire expressed to him by the Director of Chinsurah to exchange the Dutch Possessions at Bernagore for some Lands in the Vicinity of Houghly, if they should receive Authority for this Purpose from the Government at Batavia. A negotiation to the same effect was Commenced in the year 1777 at the solicitation of the Dutch, and was acquiesced in by your Administration of that Time upon the grounds Cons. 12 Jany. of mutual advantage to both Parties, but at Batavia it met with objections.

52. We have assured the Director and Council at Chinsurah that we shall be prepared to effect the Exchange as soon as they shall acquaint us that they are ready to proceed upon it, and in the mean time we have called upon the Board of Revenue for information respecting the Revenues of the Lands to be given in Compensation.

53. Early in the month of February the Ship Antonetta, commanded by Captain George Hoare, arrived at Calcutta from Flushing and Madeira under Dutch Colors.

54. The Director and Council of Chinsurah having received information, which gave them reason to suppose that she had not proper Authority for Coming to India, the Dutch Company possessing the exclusive privilege of trading to the East Ward of the Cape of Good Hope, requested, in Order to ascertain this point, that we would call upon the Commander for his Passport, Certificates or others Vouchers, and forward them to Chinsurah for their inspection, and that in the mean Time an Embargo might be laid upon the Ship and Cargo. This addresses was accompanied by an Affidavit from a Dutch Pilot, who brought in the Antonetta, that the Captain and Crew were English.

55. We immediately directed the Master Attendant to wait upon the Commander of the Antonetta, and to require from him the Passport, Certificates, Port Clearance, or other Vouchers of which he might be in possession, signifying that during the Enquiry to be made at Chinsurah, his Ship and Cargo must be Considered as under Embargo.

56. The Master Attendant obtained the Papers required from Captain Hoare, who tho' an Englishman born, appears to be a Naturalized Subject of Holland.

## LETTER DATED 10 MARCH 1789

*Prevention of grain smuggling—loan to the Dutch—Gladwin's History of Hindostan—survey maps to be sent to England—Residents at Indian Courts to submit copies of correspondence—Patna case—Fort Marlbro—remittances to China—manufacture of muslin by the British—indigo—silk investment—export for 1788 89—expansion of trade with the Marathas—proposed law for insolvent debtors—Nawab Vazir's payments—Forster's book containing account of his journey from Bengal to Europe—Hastings bonds—Benares affairs—Muhammad Riza Khan on Zamindari rights*

TO the Honble Court of Directors

Honble Sirs

1 By the Northumberland which is now under dispatch we have the honor of replying to Your Letters dated the 20th of August 1788 Pr Swallow, and to transmit to You our advices and Proceedings remaining to be sent by this Conveyance

## Foreign Department

48 \* Our Proceedings in this Department including those for and  
 No 56 the Annual Sett of 1788 will be transmitted to you  
 No 57 by this Dispatch with Indexes

## French

49 Colonel Montigny who has been Appointed Governor of Chandernagore has taken Charge of his Office  
 Cons 30th Jany Shortly after his Arrival we had occasion to Address him upon information we had received that a Grain Merchant at Chandernagore named Jaddoo Dass notwithstanding the Embargo laid on the Exportation of Grain was loading it on two Vessells lying there and that large quantities of this Article had been Smuggled in Vessells which had imported Foreign Salt and having unloaded at Ishera afterwards passed down without Stopping at Calcutta Our representation met with a ready attention from Mr Montigny who assured us that care should be taken to prevent these Abuses in future

\*Paragraphs 2-47 relate to the Military Department and have therefore been included in the Fort William—India House Correspondence Vol XIX.

Heads, and Passed Resolutions upon the different Paragraphs, the Substance of which Shall be recited opposite to the Resolutions and Remarks on them.

Public Letter 20 August

62. (Par. 1) Notices the last Letters written to the Presidency, and does not require any Reply.
63. (Para. 2) Mentions the Quantity of Foreign Silver sent on board the Swallow for the use of the Vessel in Case she should put into any Foreign Ports for Refreshments or Repairs, Captain Anderson being accountable for it on his Arrival in India. This Paragraph was communicated to the Marine Paymaster.
64. (Para.3) Directs that in future the Company's Dispatches and Book Packets should be Kept apart from private Letters, and the Commanders of their ship's enjoined to be careful in sending up the former immediately on their making their first Ports in England. This Injunction will be attended to by our Secretary. We think it proper to mention that the Boxes containing the Company's Dispatches are invariably marked "Company's particular Packet," where as those of private Letters are only marked "Company's Packet".
65. (Paras.4 & 5) advice us of the names of the Gentlemen appointed to the Committee of Secrecy for giving the Necessary Directions relative to the safety of the Company's Shipping; also of the Names of the Gentlemen appointed a Secret Committee agreeably to, and This Instructions will be duly Obeyed.

57. The above mentioned Papers were transmitted to the Director at Chinsurah, who acquainted us that on examination, they proved by no means Satisfactory, and requested that we would call upon Captain Hoare for the Packet addressed to the Governor of the Cape of Good Hope, which it appeared by the affidavit of the Pilot, the acknowledged to be in his charge. This Letter, however, was not official, and for this Reason the Captain declined to part with it. The Gentlemen at Chinsurah then requested that the Ship, with her Officers and Crew, might be delivered up to them. The Result of a Reference to our Advocate General, to whom we submitted this Application, determined us against Complying with it, altho we thought it necessary to insist upon the Ship's leaving this Port on or before the 5th. Instant, with her Cargo, and to refuse the least Protection to her if she should remain here after that Time. The Gentlemen at Chinsurah were not satisfied at our not proceeding farther, but we abided by the Resolution we had

Cons. 4th. March come to. The English Pilot on board quitted the ship on the 6th. Instant, the Time being expired which was limited for the Continuance of any Protection to it from the Company.

58. The Director at Chinsurah, in Consequence of Authorities given to him by the Directors of the Dutch East India Company in Europe, proposed to negotiate with us a loan for 8 Lacs of Rupees, payable to you in London, in order to carry on the Dutch Investment in this Country. We have no doubt that he was satisfied with the Reasons stated to him, which did not admit of

Cons. 18th. Feby. our Complying with his Request. They appear, with the Request itself in our Proceedings noted in the Margin.

59. Your Ships Kent and Phoenix were quitted by their Pilots

Cons. 30 Jany. on the 18th. of Jany. and 8th. of February, and the  
13 Feby. Dublin was dispatched on the 3rd. Instant.

60. The Kent conveyed to you our Dispatches of the 9th. of January. The Occurrences Worthy of Communication Subsequent to that Date will be detailed in the sequel of this Letter, which will be Accompanied with a Continuation of our Proceedings in the Public Department for the Months of January and February 1789, and a Complete Copy of our Consultations for the last year, with Indexes to both.

61. Our Secretary, in a Letter to Mr. Morton dated the 31st. of January, advised him that the Swallow Packet imported here on the 20th. of that month. One [sic] the 26th, we took into Consideration your Orders of the 20th. August under the Public and Commercial

72. (Paras. 12, 13, 14, 15) direct that all Documents for the Improvement of Geography and Navigation may be sent to England, a Copy being reserved here in Case of Accidents, and that Copies received from the other Presidencies of Maps & ca. be transmitted to You by the first Conveyance.

These Paragraphs have been sent to the Surveyor General for his Information, and that He may conform to the Orders contained in them.

73. (Paras. 16 to 23) inclusive prescribe the duties on which Mr. Reuben Burrow should be employed, direct that his Proceedings and those of all other Surveyors be transmitted to you by every Succeeding Conveyance, that the Officer and Establishment of the Surveyor General be conducted with the utmost Frugality, and that the Map of India be sent home in its present State.

These Paragraphs have been likewise communicated to the Surveyor General, Who has been required, after due Consideration of them to Submit his Opinion to us on the best and readiest means of carrying your Orders into Execution. We beg leave to observe, in Answer to the latter Part of the 23d Paragraph that the Map of India has been finished and that a reduced Copy of it forwarded to you, in the William Pitt, under the particular Charge of Lieutenant Colonel Call. We beg leave to correct what we mentioned to you in our Letter by that Ship, that twelve Sheets of the General Atlas were then sent, for we find that only nine Sheets were Completed at that Time. The remaining three Sheets will be forwarded to you by the Northumberland.

74. (Para 24) Requires that all charts and Nautical Remarks obtained may be transmitted by the earliest Conveyance to England.

This Order will be duly attended to.

for the Purposes stated in the Acts of the 24th & 26th of His present Majesty, and require our Attention to their Orders

66 (Para 6) Approves of our Compliance with the Accountant General's Propositions on the 3rd of October 1787 relative to the Transfer to this Presidency of the Bombay Bonded Debt not subscribed for in the authorized Remittance to England and refers to the Letter dated 31st July 1787 relative to transferring the whole of the Indian Debt to Europe

67 (Para 7) Notices a Letter dated the 3rd May 1787 from the Marquis de la Luzerne of which a Copy is transmitted relative to the Civilities shewn here to the Commander and Officers of the French Frigate Venus

68 (Para 8) Mr Robert Holt permitted to return to his Rank in the Civil Service      Paras 6 7, 8 These Paragraphs do not require any answer

69 (Para 9) Pension allowed to the Widow and Family of the late Mr Henry Walter The Allowance paid here to Mr Walter's Attornies to be discontinued from the 30th May 1788      In the Paragraph of our General Letter dated the [      ] Pr [      ] we apprized You that the Payment of Mr Walter's Pension had been discontinued from the Month of November 1787

70 (Para 10) Orders that suitable Encouragement should be given to Mr Francis Gladwin<sup>1</sup> in the presentor [sic] of his Intention to publish History of Hindostan      This Instruction has been Communicated to Mr Francis Gladwin and a subscription has been made on the part of the Company for 100 Copies of his Work

71 (Para 11) Continues the Allowance of 250 Rupees to Captain Hamilton<sup>2</sup> for twelve Months from the 19th October 1787 on Account of the Literary Work in which he is engaged      This will be paid on Application of Captain Hamilton's Attorney to the Civil Paymaster who has received Directions Accordingly



sent on board the Calcutta at Fort St George in October 1782, from the Time they were received till their Arrival here in January 1783, and if any Payment was made that the Receipt given, or an attested copy of it, may be forwarded to you.

79. (Para. 31) Notices to us your Approbation of the Readiness we Manifested to give every Assistance in Money, Stores, and Provisions, to the Madras Presidency, in Case Tippoo had invaded the Carnatic.

This Paragraph requires our Acknowledgements of the sense you entertain of our Resolutions on the Subject of it.

80. (Para 32). In this Paragraph you are pleased to direct that we Should transmit to you regularly with the other Proceedings of our Government a Copy of the Official Correspondence which passed between the Residents at the several Indian Courts and Military Officers & others, and you desire particularly, to have a Copy of the Correspondence deposited in the Resident's Office at Lucknow and Benares since the 1st of January 1774. You further direct that, if any Deficiencies should appear in them, we Should inquire into the Cause, and take the most effectual Means to have them supplied. We are also instructed to continue regularly to enter, as usual

We shall require your Residents at the Several Indian Courts to transmit to us Monthly, unless Occasion Should require its being sent more frequently, a Copy of their Official Correspondence with Military Officers and others, and the same shall be regularly entered on our Consultations. The Residents at Lucknow and Benares have been acquainted with you Pleasure in regard to their Correspondence, and directed to conform to it, the Correspondence of the Resident at Benares commencing with the Institution of this Office but as they inform us that it will require Several Months to complete the Copies of it we shall not be able to transmit them to you before the Dispatch of the first Ships of the ensuing season ; We shall continue to enter regularly in our

75. (Para 25). prescribes the Duty to be done by the Officer recommended in the 7th Article of the Regulations proposed by the Surveyor General on the [...] and Mentions Lieutt. H. R. Colebrooke as a fit Person to be nominated to it.
76. (Para 26) Transmits a List of Maps not in your Possession, and of which Copies are required. Every new Acquisition to be forwarded by the earliest conveyance; Half a Ream of Transparent Paper sent for the Facility of making Copies, and Instructions given Concerning the use of it.
77. (Paras. 27, 28 & 29). advise us that you have in Contemplation to send by one of the Ships of the next season proper Instruments for measuring one or more Degrees on the Coast of Coramandel, and of Duties assigned to Mr. Topping at Madras & Mr. Burrow in Bengal.
78. (Para. 30) desires that we will acquaint you by the first opportunity, and afterwards in Duplicate whether any Payment was made in Bengal for Victualling Passengers who were
- The Intimation conveyed in this Paragraph respecting Lieutt. Colebrooke was communicated to him, and an Option of the Office, which you have pointed out given to him. He has accepted the Situation, and been Appointed to it.
- The Directions conveyed in this Paragraph will be complied with by the Surveyor General, to whom The transparent Paper has been sent for the Purpose mentioned.
- Mr. Reuben Burrow has been Ordered to the Presidency to prepare for the Work directed in these Paragraphs, and the Government of Fort St. George have been desired to Apprise Mr. Topping of your Intentions that He also may hold himself in readiness to execute them. With Respect to the Survey of the East side of the Bay of Bengal it can only be begun After the ensuing Rains, when the Work first Ordered will be finished.
- We have called upon the proper Officers for the Information here required, and will transmit it to you by the first Conveyance after we receive it.

## Fort St. George

84. We are happy to inform you that the Apprehension of a Scarcity of Rice at Fort St. George has been removed by a plentiful

Cons. 23d. Jany. Fall of Rain in all parts of the Country, with the immediate Effect of reducing the Price of Grain, a Circumstance peculiarly fortunate at this Period, as our Board of Revenue after weighing the Reports made to them by the different

Cons. 30 Jany. Collectors have given it as their decided Opinion that, to take off the Embargo on the Exportation by Sea immediately, would be productive of great Inconvenience to the Inhabitants of this Country; and they have recommended its continuance till the Month of August at least, when they shall be enabled to Judge, from the State of the Bhadoon Crop, whether the Same Restraint upon the Exportation of Grain will be longer necessary.

## Bombay

85. The Tender of a Remittance to Bombay of 50,000 Rupees noticed in the 11th. Para. of our Letter Pr. Kent has been rejected owing to the Insufficiency of the Security, but a Remittance of Rupees

Cons. Feby. 60,000 payable in Six Months at the Exchange of 100 Bombay Rupees for 100 Sa. Rs. advanced here in Certificates has been Since engaged for Accompanied with undeniable Security.

## Fort Marlbro'

86. Advices from Fort Marlbro': date dso far back as the 31st. of October 1788 were received in Bengal on the 21st. of January by the way of Fort St. George: The Situation of your Affairs on the Coast of Summatra, owing to the rebellious Conduct of the young Sultan of Moco Moco requiring the immediate assistance of a Detachment of 300 Seapoys, for which the Resident and Council applied to us, the Commander in Chief instantly adopted Such Measures as He Conceived most advisable to engage Volunteers for this Service to the Number required. His Lordship Succeeded in this without Difficulty, & as your Ship Lord Macartney (then on the point of sailing for Bombay) was in every respect the most proper Vessel to be employed in transporting the Troops to Bencoolen, we resolved to send her upon this Service, previous to her proceeding to Bombay and China, a Voyage which we had been obliged to allot to her.

87. Captain Hay was dispatched on the 13th Ultimo.

upon our proceedings  
our own correspondence  
with the several Residents

Proceedings, as you direct our  
own Correspondence with the  
Several Residents

1 (Paras 33 to 58) inclusive  
concern the Finances

These will be replied to at large  
in a separate Letter by this  
Dispatch.

82 (Para 60) refers to a Letter  
which you have written  
to Sir Archibald Camp-  
bell in Reply to one from  
him dated the 21 of July  
1787

This Paragraph does not require  
any immediate answer

83 (Para 61) refers to your Soli-  
citor's Report of the Pre-  
sent state of the appeal  
in the Patna cause of Nau-  
derah Begum against  
Behadre Beg and others,  
together with a Draft of a  
Plea on behalf of the  
Company, agreeable to  
Council's Opinion, in  
case an Action Should be  
brought on the Bond You  
express a Hope that you  
shall be able to send to us  
by the Ships of next Season  
the Decree of the Lords  
of appeal in this Cause,  
and desire that in the mean  
Time, we will give proper  
orders for defending the  
Company against the  
Demand in Case an Action  
shall be brought, and if  
Judgement should be  
given against the Company,  
you direct us to Appeal  
there-from to His Majesty  
in Council

This Paragraph and the Papers  
referred to in it have been  
communicated to your Attorney  
at Law, in order that he may  
submit them to the Advocate  
General, and receive his In-  
structions for Complying with  
your Orders

with Estimates formed upon the best Enquiry they could direct, of the Amount likely to be employed in that manner, in the ensuing season, by Individuals, or otherwise.

93. These Documents will certainly be of Assistance When the Subject of Remittances to your Supra Cargoes is under Discussion, and upon that Idea, we agree with them in requesting that you will do us the Favour of communicating to us similar Information of the Extent of your annual Consignments to China.

94. Mr. George Smith's Proposals of last year have not been attended with Success but we are persuaded from the Intelligence received concerning the Engagements of Price & Co. that  
 Cons. 30 Jany. they were not only fulfilled but exceeded. In Strict conformity to our Resolutions, these Gentlemen therefore became entitled to Similar Engagements for the ensuing season; but for Substantial Reasons, which are stated by the Governor General in a Minute, which his Lordship delivered in Council on the 30th. of January last, we have thought proper to decline any further Remittances in that mode, as liable to great Risk without adequate Security, and Objectionable as constituting a Monopoly.

95. The Inconvenience to which the House of Price and Co. are Subjected by this Determination were detailed in a Letter from them, which was recorded on the 30th of January. In Consideration thereof, and of the equitable Offer they  
 Cons. 30 Jany. have made, we have been induced to order them an Advance of C. Rs. 1,00,000 in Certificates repayable in Six Months at Bombay in Cash and at Par, or in China at the Exchange of last year  
 Cons. 6 Feby. as may be most convenient to them, and we have taken their Bills accordingly.

96. The Resource Brig One of the Vessels, the Cargo of which was assigned over to the Hon'ble Company by Mr. Bruere on Account of his China Remittances for 86/7 having been given up as last. the Sum of Ct. Rs. 87,164-4-9. has been received from the Insurers and carried to your Credit at the Treasury.

### Commercial

Commercial Letter Dated 20th August 1788

97. (Paras. 1, 2, 3, 4) Refer to your General Letter dated the 1st of March 1783 relative to an Undertak-  
 Paras. 1, 2, 3, 4. The Board of Trade, under whose Province it particularly fell to acquaint us with their Sentiments and

88. Our Original Instructions directed him to Shape his Course to the Island of Sumatra, so as to fall in with it to the Northward of Moco Moco, where (to prevent the Chance of Delay in the Execution of the Service intended for the Troops). He was either to land them or to adopt the Speediest method of obtaining Instructions from Fort Marlbro' or from Captain Hamilton (if the Communication with him Should be more convenient) and, in the Event of the Troops being landed Short of Fort Marlbro, it was left at his Discretion to proceed to that Presidency or not as the Public Service might require.

89. Upon Subsequent Consideration of this Business we were induced to prepare Separate Instructions for Captain Hay, (which we enclosed to your Presidency at Fort Marlbro' that they might be delivered to him if they thought proper) ordering him, if the Services of the Detachment were no longer wanted, and the Deputy Governor and Council Should require him to return with it to Bengal, to follow their Directions; in which Case Pilot Sloops would be ready to receive the Troops in Balasore Roads, where the Captain of the Lord Macartney should wait our further Directions without bringing his Ship into the River.

90. For your more particular Information upon the whole of this Subject we beg Leave to refer you to our Separate Proceedings respecting Fort Marlbro' of the 21st, of January and 18th. of February: we hope that the Service upon which the Detachment is ordered will be speedily and happily terminated, and that the Treatment, which we have been particularly anxious that the Sepoys should meet with both during the Voyage and their Stay on the Coast of Sumatra, will be attended with the best Consequences, and Contribute to remove the Objections heretofore prevalent among them to engaging in transmarine Expectations.

#### China

91. Since the Departure of the Triton we have received Letters from your Supra Cargoes dated the 24th of November 1788 containing their Remarks upon the Several Engagements made in Bengal to them in the last year and a state of their Finances which will be considered when Opportunities offer of sending Letters to Canton.

Cons. 5 Jany.

92. Pursuant to a Suggestion from the Supra Cargoes we applied to the Presidencies of Fort St. George and Bombay for Statements of the Actual Remittances from them to China on the Company's Account during the last three years. Specifying the Several Modes and Channels by which they were made, and we also desired to be furnished

ally the Muslins of the finer Dacca Assortments, Attending well, in the first Instance to the Quality of the raw Material, and affording every encouragement to the growth and Improvement in general of the Article of Cotton, but particularly that Species of it which is manufactured into the finer Sort of Thread in use for the Superior Goods of the Dacca Fabrics. You also direct us to concert with your Servants at Bombay the means of Carrying into Effect the Resolution you have come to in Compliance with the Wishes of the Manufacturers to import 5,00,000 lbs Weight of Broach and Surat Cotton, or Cotton the produce of Bengal of a Similar Quality and you desire to be furnished with every needfull Information respecting the Article as to its growth, quality, Cost, and other Particulars, on the receipt of which you will transmit to us further Instructions. In respect to the Articles pointed out by the Manufacturers, in their Pamphlets, as Substitutes of Remittance in lieu of their proposed Reduction in Piece Goods, you desire us to take the Subject under Consideration, and if there is a Pro-

ing of the Cotton Manufacturers in England in the Fabrication of the Article of Muslins, with a view of entering into a Competition with the Goods of a similar Description introduced from India, acquaint us that they had brought it, in the Ordinary & middling Assortments, to a Considerable Degree of Perfection, which has already enabled them to undersell the Company in the Markets at home, the Company's Importations being Subject to Duties and Freight to which the Manufacturers are not liable; that they had Solicited Government to lay open the Company's Trade in the ordinary Sorts both of Muslins and Callicoes for home Consumption, which Proposition, if carried into Effect, would go in a great Measure to weaken, if not Altogether destroy, the Company's Commerce so far as those Articles are Concerned. You refer to Several Papers in the Packet as exhibiting the present stage of the business, and repeat in the Strongest manner possible your former Orders that the utmost Attention should be paid to the Manufacture of all your Piece Goods in General, but more especi-

opinions upon the important Subjects of these Orders, have enlarged on them with much Ability in their Proceedings of the 10th Ultimo, which we think it necessary to transmit to you a number in the Packet, with a Copy of their Letter to us enclosing them. We received them on the 27th of last Month when our Dispatches were preparing for the Northumberland and as the delay of a few days, would not be very Material while the points to be considered were of the utmost Consequence, we have Agreed to enter upon them as soon as this Ship has sailed. But we think it proper to observe to you that the Several orders & Inquiries which the Board of Trade propose to be made, appear to us at present to be extremely Judicious and proper, and will receive, we have no doubt our entire Approbation.



the Advertisement adverted to in the 15th. Paragraph of our Letter by the Kent. They were immediately referred to the Board of Trade, who having consulted Mr. Prager as to the Valuation of the Samples, and considered the Proposals Separately, and in the Aggregate, Submitted their opinions to us. These with our Resolutions upon them attend you in this Dispatch.

101. We forwarded to you by the Kent a Letter from the Board of Trade, dated the 9th of January and a Summary Account of their Proceedings Subsequent to the Dispatch of the William Pitt.

102. That Letter and such other Letters as they occasionally addressed to us while your Ships were under Dispatch, we beg leave to recommend to your Attentive Perusal, as they exhibit more particular Information, with respect to the Commercial branch of your Affairs, than our Genl. Advices can be expected to comprehend. We also refer you, for a Narrative of late Commercial Transactions, to a Letter from the Board of Trade which will make a Number in this Dispatch.

103. The Death of Mr. Crommelin, late Commercial Resident at Radnagore, has Compelled us to Authorize an expence of 25,000 Rs. in the purchase of the Filature at that Station, which belonged to his Estate, both as the means of excluding Rivals from the Aurung and Securing an Investment for the present year, which a new Filature could not produce. This Subject is more fully explained by the Board of Trade in their Letter recorded in the Proceedings noted in the Margin.

104. It is with much concern we acquaint you that the Board of Trade have reported to us that their expectations of a Plentiful Produce from the November Bund of Silk, and of a Consequent Diminution in the price of that Article of the Company's Investment, are disappointed. Our Proceedings of the 26th. of January contain their Letter to us upon this Subject, with Arguments for continuing the Provision during the present year upon the best term that can be made. These, and our entire Confidence in their zealous Exertions, have induced us to leave it to their discretion, under Assurances which we have given them that any measures they may recommend for encouraging and extending the Culture of the Mulberry Plant shall meet with our Attentive Consideration: with this view, their Suggestions have already been communicated to the Board of Revenue, and Strongly Supported in our Instructions to them.

spect of extending your Trade with any degree of Advantage by the Introduction of any such Articles (particularly Raw Materials, Reference being had to your late Orders on the Subject of Indigo) you wish the same to be carried into effect.

98. The 5th. Paragraph takes Notice of the Supplies of Copper Coin sent to Fort Marlbro' both from England and Bengal, and requires us to discontinue this mode of Remittance thither, as it is manifestly *more for the Company's Advantage* that the Demand of Bencoolen in Copper should be provided for in Europe.

This Prohibition shall be Strictly attended to. It is necessary to acquaint you that no Bengal Copper Coin has been sent by us to Bencoolen since the year 1784.

99. The 6th., 7th., 8th., & 9th. Paragraphs relate to the Inquiry you have made into the Circumstances of Goods being returned from the Ganges and Earl of Oxford in 1787, on Account of the Apparent Incapacity of those Ships to receive them, and they prescribe rules for future Observance concerning the Package of Goods and the early Notice to be given to the Commanders of Indiamen of the Quantities to be laden on them.

These Paragraphs were communicated to the Board of Trade for their Guidance. You will observe that they have Considered the Subject of them in the proceedings that are adverted to our Replies to the 1 2 3 & 4 Paras. of the Letter before us.

100. Our Proceedings noted in the Margin exhibit the different Proposals that were made for the delivery of Indigo in pursuance of

110. Mr. Keighly (acquiescing, to all Appearance, in the Justice of our Resolution) expected in Answer to the Communication of our Demand, the utmost Anxiety to conform to our Orders; but as he was then on the point of embarking, and as his utmost Endeavours to realize the Amount had been exerted without any Prospect of Success, He Solicited very earnestly that he might be allowed to pay the Balance in England. His Securities consented, and we Agreed Supposing that all Ideas of further difference were relinquished.

Cons. 23d. Jany.  
26 Jany.

111. We are now to observe to you that Mr. Keighly transmitted a Letter under your address from the Ship, on which he embarked, Soliciting your Reconsideration of his disputed Accounts. It attends you in the present Dispatch with such Remarks from the Board of Trade as it appeared to require.

112. An Account Short delivery of Madeira Wine from the Lord Macartney at Fort St. George Attends you in the present Dispatch.

113. Mr. Prager's Annual Account (affirmed on Oath according to his Covenants) of all Diamonds, Diamond Boart, and other precious Stones and Pearls purchased and Sold, or otherwise disposed of by him between the 1st. March 1788 and 1st. March 1789 is transmitted in this Packet.

March 4th.

114. Mr. Henderson, who had undertaken the Superintendence of the Silk Manufacture lately introduced into the Behar Province having been Appointed to an European Battalion he has as Surgeon to the Collector of Gya been succeeded by Mr. Burt, a consequence of a Solicitation made in his Favor by the Collector who is Strenuous in the Promotion of this undertaking, which has hitherto been Attended with Success. The expence Continues the same and the Progress of the Manufacture will be reported to us from time to time.

11 Feby.

115. In a Letter from the Secret Committee dated the 21st. of July 1786 the Principles of the Company's Administration in India were generally pointed out; and among other objects we were directed to make it generally known and understood that it was your wish to pursue fairly the Interchanges of Trade beneficial to the Natives no less than to the Company, and to render those parts of India, which were under your Government, completely happy under the protection of the British Power.

116. On the Consideration of these Orders, it occurred to us that probably the Commercial Intercourse between the Maratta Country in the Company's Territories in its Neighbourhood would ad-

105. We beg leave to apprize you that the Board of Trade have assigned to us the following Reasons for not complying with an Application made by Captain Hardinge on the 5th. of January for 20 Tons Surplusage. "They had not received Advice from the Agent of the Capacity of the Kent to take more than her Chartered Tonnage, the whole of which had been dispatched, & the period originally fixed for her Departure had expired, when that of the next Ship was at hand without a Sufficiency of Goods in the Warehouse to load her". The Board of Trade have further Reported, that the Export Warehouse Keeper having called upon the Agent to State the Capacity of the Kent, he answered that the Goods already put on board her had filled the Hold, and that any Surplus Tonnage could be Stowed only in the Gun Room, which he however apprehended would be otherwise Occupied.

106. The Applications for Private Freight being on the whole very inconsiderable, and not likely to be great, and the Distresses of the Season having precluded all Expectation of realizing more than 80 Lacs for the Exports of 1788/9, Every Prospect of obtaining a Cargo for the Lord Macartney was given up, and we  
 Cons. 19th & 30 Jany. formed a Resolution of Sending that Ship to Bombay and China, as the only mode of lessening the expence to be incurred by her Demurrage.

107. In the former part of this Letter we have Acquainted you that the Voyage of the Lord Macartney has been Altered, and that her Destination, so far as it relates to Bombay, may eventually be given up Altogether.

108. In the 237th. Paragraph of our Letter by the William Pitt we informed you that we had Acquiesced in an Application made to us by Mr. Keighly to be allowed a little more time for payment of the Balance that was due to the Company on Account of his Silk Contracts for 1786/7.

109. An Account Current sent to Mr. Keighly by your Board of Trade on the 31st. of December 1788 drew forth a  
 Cons. 6th Jany. further Representation from him on the Subject of the unpaid Balance, which we transmitted to your Board of Trade for their Remarks and Explanations. These were immediately furnished, and our final Resolutions in Consequence  
 Cons. 21st. Jany. settled the Company's remaining Demand upon Mr. Keighly at the Sum of Current Rupees 15,132.8.2. which we required him to discharge without Delay.

Dispatch, and we beg Leave to refer you to these Documents, in Elucidation of the Grounds upon which Mr. Lacam's Plan is totally rejected, and for your Information as to the Mode which we have adopted for ascertaining what Compensation may be reasonably made to him pursuant to the Instructions Conveyed in the 18th. Paragraph of your General Letter of the 21st. July 1786.

122. We have the Pleasure to send in this Dispatch Copy of a Letter from the Master Attendant and Marine Paymaster dated the 9th. Instant, upon the Subject of the Paragraphs of your Orders of the 28th. March 1788.

123. We transmit to you a Number in the Packet Copy of a Letter from the Naval Store Keeper, Accompanying a List of all the Company's Marine Stores in hand on the 31st. December 1788. to which is added in Separate Columns Accounts of the additional quantity required of each particular Article, in Order to complete a Stock in hand sufficient to Supply your Yachts and Schooners for three Years. The Letter and account above Mentioned we beg leave to refer to your Perusal.

124. Captain Buchanan and the Officers of the Ranger are returned to Europe, having been provided with Passages in your Ships, or advanced the usual Allowance to furnish themselves with Accommodations in Foreign Vessels. Captain Buchanan's Accounts cannot be finally adjusted in this Country, as will appear from the Accompanying Letter addressed to us on the Subject by our Marine Paymaster. An Account Current between him and the Company and Certificates of the Advances made to him in Bengal were forwarded in the Dublin.

125. The Swallow Packet is now employed on a Voyage to Madras to which Presidency she Conveys Colonel Musgrave and the Light Infantry Company of His Majesty's 76th. Regiment. It is our present Intention to return this Vessel to England in August; and we have therefore desired the Governor in Council at Fort St. George not to detain her on the Coast so as to interfere with her intended Destination, Captain Anderson's ill state of health requiring that He should remain on Shore, the Swallow is at present under the temporary Command of the Chief Mate.

126. At the particular Solicitation of Captain Smith of the Dublin, we have allowed Mr. Henry Dickey, his Purser, to remain for the

mit of Extension. We therefore consulted your Resident at Poona on the Subject, and desired him to include it in his Correspondence with the Government of Bombay. We afterwards instructed him to furnish us, from the best Materials he could Command, with a particular State of the Trade, as well with respect to Articles of Merchandize produced or Manufactured in India, that we might be enabled to judge how far it would admit of an Increase advantageous to both. We have the pleasure to transmit Numbers in the Packet, a Copy of a Lettr Dated the 8th. of August 1788 from Mr. Malet on this Subject, and Copies of those written to him by our Order on the 30th. of October and 30th. of December in the same Year.

### Marine

117. Our Advices by the William Pitt (Para 125 a 130) will have informed you of the Measures We thought it most advisable to pursue for the purpose of ascertaining the Expediency and Practicability of Carrying into Execution Mr. Lacam's Plan respecting new Harbour, and we mentioned to you the Progress of the Survey which we had Ordered.

118. The Report of the Commissioners (in which their Sentiments are unanimous) accompanying an Explanatory Chart, and a Separate Report from Lieutenant Popham, were Submitted to us early in November last. These were furnished to by Mr. Lacam pursuant to his request, and he was allowe d to inspect the Charts at the Council House.

119. More pressing Business intervening, the Discussion of the Subject was necessarily postponed. In the mean Time. Two of the Gentlemen who had been employed on the Survey were deputed to make a Similar Survey of Diamond Harbor, in order that the Comparative Advantages of that and new Harbour might be clearly ascertained.

120. Lieutenant Blair of your Bombay Marine, and Lieutenant Caldwell of the Engineer Corps. having Completed the latter Survey, Cons. Decr. delivered to us Separate Reports, and with these Jany. Materials before us we entered into a full and Serious Consideration of the Subject, with an Attention equal to its Importance.

121. The abovementioned Reports and Charts, Mr. Lacam's remarks and Correspondence since his Arrival in Bengal, and our Minute, in which the whole is discussed, attend you in the present

embarked in the Phoenix. The Terms on which he has been allowed to proceed are, his present Securities remaining in full Force, until he can put in Security in England, to the amount and on the Terms required on him by such Bondsmen as shall be approved by the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Company, and we consented not to take any advantage of his present Bond becoming Forfeited by his Departure provided he should proceed without delay to England, and put in Such Security within three Months after his Arrival there

130. One Copy of all the Correspondence upon this Subject (including our Advocate General's Opinions upon the different References to him) was delivered to Mr. Keighly with a Letter addressed to your Secretary. A Second Copy attends you in the Packet; and we beg leave to refer the whole to your Perusal.

131. Your Attorney at Law having obtained from the Supreme Court, Copies of the different Wills and Codicils filed in the Supreme Court, also Schedules of Letters of Administration  
 14 January granted by the Court to the Estates of deceased Persons likewise Copies of the Accounts filled by Administrators in the year 1788. They were transmitted in the Phoenix.

132. By this Conveyance you will receive Copies of the Papers stated by our Law Officers to be necessary to be  
 25 Feby. transmitted to you upon the Appeal allowed to Mr. Keighly against the decision of the Supreme Court upon the Plea put in by him to the Bill filed by the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Company against Messrs. Barton, Rider & Keighly.

#### Company's Servants

133. Mr. Thomas Calvert and Mr. Matmaduke Grey of this Establishment having obtained our Permission to resign your Service, embarked for Europe in the Dublin. These Gentlemen have requested to be restored to their Rank upon this Establishment in the event of their making Applications to You to that Effect and we beg leave to recommend that these may be complied with.

134. Mr. Aplin, who has served with Credit to himself and Satisfaction to this Government, in the Offices which he held for Several Years as Secretary to the Governor General & Council in the Revenue Department and afterwards as Secretary to the Revenue Board, was obliged some Months ago by an ill state of health, owing principally to his intense Application to business, to resign his Situation under the Board of Revenue. The Same Cause now makes it necessary for

36 January present in Bengal, to Settle his Private Affairs, which He found it impossible to adjust previous to the Departure of the Ship.

#### Law Officers

127. In our Dispatch by the William Pitt we transmitted to you the Draft of a Bill prepared by the Advocate General on the several heads recapitulated in our Letter by that Ship, by which we also acquainted you that we expected to be able to transmit to you a Draft of a Bill for the relief of Insolvent Debtors by some of the Ships of the present Year. The Advocate General accordingly did prepare the Draft of a Bill for the relief of Insolvent Debtors, and had finished the same early in January. But as great increase of Labour must be thrown upon the Judges of the Supreme Court if that Bill should pass into a Law, and many Ministerial Acts will be required to be performed by some or other of the Officers of the Court, there were a number of blanks, which the Advocate General did not think it would be proper, or becoming in him, to fill up without Consulting the Judges previously on the Subject. He therefore, with the Approbation of the Governor General in Council, put the Draft of the Bill into the hands of Sir William Jones, by whom it was persued, and on the 21st. of January was delivered to Mr Justice Hyde, in order to its being Persued by him, and afterward by Sir

Cons. 5th Novr.	Robert Chambers, previous to their Meeting together to settle the points which were left for their
12th. Novr.	adjustment; But we find that the business of the
26th. Novr.	Supreme Court has, since that period, so constantly
28th. Novr.	engaged their time that they have not yet been able
5th. Decr.	to devote sufficient leisure to the Perusal of the
8th Decr.	Draft to enable them to adjust the points on which
80th Decr.	their Advice was necessary. This delay, tho' it pre-
85th Decr.	cludes us from Sending you the Draft by the present
29th Decr.	Dispatch, we the less regret, as the Northumberland cannot be expect-

ed to arrive in England till late in the Summer and our next Packet will most probably reach you early in the ensuing Session of Parliament.

128. In the 291st. Paragraph of our General Letter by the William Pitt, we apprized you that we had referred to Your Advocate General for his Opinion, an Application made to us by Mr. Keighly for Permission to return to Europe in one of the Ships to be dispatched this Season.

129. After much Discussion as to the Terms upon which this Indulgence could be conceded to Mr. Keighly, consistently with due attention to your Claims upon him, and considerations of humanity to him it was granted, and He

6 Jany.



cellency did not wish for any Retrospect into the whole of it, confining himself to a Claim of the Balance due from the Aumil for the Fussalee Years 1194 & 1195 and the Completion of his Engagements for the present Year 1196. We considered the Vizier entirely justified in making this Demand, and instructed the Resident to Countenance it in Such a manner that there Should not be a Doubt with Almauss that we thought it just.

139. Your Secret Committee were advised that Mizza Hadgey, the eldest son of the late Shahzada, had quitted Benares and proceeded to Lucknow. His Example has since been followed by the Second Son, Mozuffer Buhkt. The Principal Begum, Kutterl luck Sultaun, remains at Benares.

#### Miscellanea

140. At the Request of Mr. G. Forster, we transmit to you by this Conveyance a Book containing a Narrative of his Journey from Bengal to Europe by a Northern Tract together with a Chart of the Road from Sal Dong to Kashmire. Mr. Forster in his Letter to us, which, the dated so far back as the 14th October 1787 was not received till the 3rd Instant, informs us that the Chairman of your Hon'ble Court had told him, When He was last in England, that the Court would order the Publication of this Work, for which purpose it is now forwarded.

141. At the Request of Mr. William Larkins, the Acting Attorney of Mr. Hastings, we have sent in this Packet the original Bonds No. 13.54.15. 39 & 15.40 which were delivered up in Council by Mr. Hastings on the 17th of January 1785, and cancelled in the presence of the Board. Two Copies of these Bonds duly attested and of their several Endorsements deposed to upon Oath, have been reserved One to remain as a Record in our Treasury, the other to be transmitted to you by the next Opportunity. We beg leave to observe, in this Place, that Similar copies of these Bonds were taken, and transmitted to you as No 14 of the Packet from the Pub. Dept. by the Berrington in the Year 1785, and were particularly Noticed in the 9th. Paragraph of the General Letter from this Government dated the 31st January 1785.

142. The Attorney to the Agent for the Recaptors of the Ship Hinchinbrooke having produced a Decree of the High Court of Admiralty declaring that Ship to be a legal Capture, we have (with the advice of our Advocate General) authorized the Deposits made into your Treasury by Individuals on Account of their private property received from the

6 February  
25 February

him to leave this Country to try the effect of a change of Climate, and as Mr. Aplin informs us that very Probably he may solicit your permission to return to Bengal without Prejudice to his rank, we persuaded that you will do a really Justice to his Merits by Complying with his request.

### Lucknow & Benares

135. In the Packet of the William Pitt we forwarded to you Copies of the Commercial Treaty, which had been concluded by Lord Cornwallis with the Vizier and promised to transmit to you a Detail of the Negotiations by a Subsequent Conveyance. We have the pleasure to send it a Number in this Dispatch.

136. The last Account which we have received from the Resident at Lucknow states the Balance due to the company from the Nabob Vizier at the End of January to be Fyzabad 16 Sun Sicca Rs. 6,22,360.6.10; upon the whole we have no Occasion to Complain of irregularity in the Payment of his Excellency's Kists.

137. The Nabob Vizier having requested that Mr. Frederick Maitland Arnott, who proceeded to the Vizier's Country with Commercial views, might not Continue there, we have required him to leave it in the Month of June next, and to return to the Company's Provinces.

138. His Excellency and his Ministers Apprehending a Design in Almauss ally Khan to withdraw from his Dominions, or to force from the Nabob Terms which he could not with Propriety comply with, the Balance due to the Government from his Tarms [sic] being considerable, Almauss was Summoned to Lucknow to Settle his Accounts, and the Vizier, Supposing it possible that he would refuse Compliance with the Order, requested that directions might be given for the Assistance of a Force from Cawnpore to Compel his Obedience. Almauss, however, complied with the Requisition for his Attendance and a Reference was made to us by the Resident at the Desire of the Minister, to learn whether Mr. Ives should interfere or not in the Settlement of Affairs between the Aumil & the Nabob, who charged him with taking Deductions from his Engagements, and with Embezzlements; with entertaining a greater Number of Cavalry and Infantry than was allowed; with keeping Artillery by his own Authority, and defraying the Charges for these Infraingements of his Duty as a Subject with Money which he had embezzled from the Nabob But, Notwithstanding these Causes of Complaint against the Conduct of Almauss Ally Khan, his Ex-

## Revenue Department

148. We transmit to you a Set of our Proceedings in this Department for the year 1788, also the broken Set of our Consultations for the Months of January and February 1789, with the Index and appendix to each.

## Land Revenues

149. It was our anxious wish to have completed the plan for a permanent Settlement of the Revenues of these Provinces according to your orders of the 12th of April 1786 so as to have transmitted it to you by the Ships of this Season; But We have been disappointed in our expectations by the indisposition of Mr. Shore, to whose minute recorded on our proceedings of the 25th February we beg leave to refer you. We entertain however the most sanguine hopes that we shall be able to come to a final determination upon the plan before the Expiration of the present Bengal Year, and to carry it into Execution before the commencement of the ensuing year 1196.

## Benares

150. For the Reasons assigned in a Letter from the Resident at Benares recorded on our Proceedings of the 21st January we thought proper to authorize him to reduce the Surplus weight heretofore taken from the Cultivators of the Opium from eight to two and a half Seers P Maund; and to pay the Cultivators for their Opium in real Benares Siccas instead of exacting in deduction a Batta of five P Cent, as had been Customary. The abolition of these two Articles will enhance the price from 150 Rupees P Chest of two Maunds, as originally proposed by Ram Chund Pundit when the Agency was conferred upon him, to 180 Rupees, making a difference of 30 Rupees, according to the particulars stated in the Account Accompanying the above mentioned Letter from the Resident.

151. It is with satisfaction we acquaint you that our apprehensions of a scarcity of Grain in the Zemindary of Benares, communicated to you in our Letter of the 9th Jany. last by the Kent, have been wholly removed by the accounts lately received from the Resident, and for which we beg leave to refer you to our Proceedings noted in the Margin.

## Customs

152. We transmit to you a Separate Number in the Packet a Copy of a Letter addressed to us by the Board of Revenue, enclosing a representation from the Calcutta Custom Master together with an Account of the duties due from the Contractors on the Madeira rejected in 1787 & 1788, amounting to Current Rupees 7,194.14.6.

Ship; Amounting to 1971.1.9; and the Interest of a Bond No. 3829. For CRs. 36,056.10.6, to be paid to him, (on his producing a regular power of Attorney) and the principal of the said Bond to be received as a Subscription upon the Terms settled for transferring your Bonded Debt.

143. Pursuant to the Orders conveyed in the 4th Paragraph of your General Letter of the 22d December 1785 the Several Passengers, who came to India in the Ships of this Season were  
 6 February called upon by our Secretary to state the Amount received, from or demanded of them by the Commanders for their accommodation, and to state the Treatment they met with while on board. Their several Answers are recorded in our proceedings noted in the Margin.

144. Frequent Representations respecting the Insufficiency of the new Goal, and the Inconvenience to which Debtors were Subjected by Confinement within the same Enclosure with common  
 7 July Felons having been made to us by Successive Grand Juries, and the Supreme Court, we have been influenced by these Considerations to authorize the Construction by Contract of Additional Buildings and Offices, which are  
 12th Jany. deemed adequate to every necessary purpose. The Contract is made with Mr. H. Darley, whose Proposals were reported by the Chief Engineer and Civil Architect to be the lowest tendered, pursuant to an Advertizement which we published. The Buildings are to be Completed in Eight Months, for Advances in Certificates made at certain Periods during the Progress, which is to be Subject to the Inspection of an Officer of Engineers.

145. Mr. Samuel Bean having come to this Country without the Company's Licence has been required to return to Europe by the Northumberland, and, being unable to pay for his Passage, we have been obliged to order that he Should be received on Board on Terms of Charter Party.

146. In our Letter by the William Pitt we referred to you a Memorial that had been presented to us by Lieutenant Wood. Having again considered the Subject of it, We are of Opinion that his zeal and Activity, While on the Service Allotted to him by the Government of Bombay entitled him to particular Notice, and for that purpose we beg Leave to Suggest to you the propriety of recommending him to the Lords of the Admiralty as he is an Officer in His Majesty's Navy.

147. Such Addresses respecting Mr. Hastings as have been translated since the Departure of the Kent are forwarded by the present Dispatch.

153 The Agreement with the Contractors having been settled by you and it appearing from the terms thereof that their Accounts are to be finally adjusted in England We thought proper to direct the Custom Master to allow the Agents of the Contractors to dispose of the rejected Madeira duty free and acquainted him that we should leave it to you to debit the Contractors for the amount on the final adjustment of their Accounts should you be of opinion that they are liable to the payment of the Calcutta duties in the same Manner as other merchants importing Madeira into Bengal on their own Account.

#### Grain

154 We are happy to acquaint you that from the Accounts we have received from the Collectors subsequent to our last Dispatch it appears that the Crops throughout Bengal with the exception of a few districts have in general been plentiful In parts of Behar and Benares the fall of rain was by no means sufficient for the cultivation and the Rice harvest suffered considerably in several Pergunnahs We have no reason however to apprehend that the inhabitants in any part of your territories will experience any inconvenience from a scarcity of Grain during the present year But as the price of Rice in many places and in Calcutta in particular is higher than the ordinary rate we have determined to continue the embargo on the exportation of Grain by Sea for some Months longer

#### Miscellaneous

155 We transmit to you at the desire of Mr Shore a separate number in the Packet a Translate of the Nabob Mohamed Reza Khan's replies to some questions stated to him by Mr Shore respecting Zemindary rights being in continuation of that Gentleman's minute on above Subject forwarded to you with our Letter of the 6th March 1788 by the Rodney

156 It is with satisfaction we acquaint you that the Compilation of the Code of Hindoo and Mahomedan Jurisprudence is very considerably advanced under the Superintendence of Sir William Jones The work when completed will be very voluminous & cannot fail to do great honour to that zeal which voluntarily engaged in a task so laborious and important to the Interests of the Community and to those abilities which alone are equal to the direction of it.

157 We have received your Letter by the Swallow under date 20th August 1788 and shall do ourselves the honour of replying to it at a future opportunity

158 We transmit to you a separate number in the Packet a List of the Appointments which have taken place in this Department since the last dispatch

4th. It having been impracticable to furnish the Account of Receipts and Disbursements with Accuracy and precision in the Manner required by these Paragraphs, while the General Books were so much in Arrear, and the Removal of this Obstacle not having been accomplished before the Middle of November last, we have not been able to transmit to the other Presidencies the Plan by which all your Settlements are required to furnish you with uniform Accounts. But, as that of this Presidency for the year 1787/8 has been completed, We shall transmit a Copy of the same, and of the Estimate with which it will be contracted, deeming this practical Application of the Instructions which have been already Communicated to the other Presidencies; in the Extracts they were furnished with of the Accountant General's Letters to this Government of 11th April 1785 and 18th May 1787, more likely to produce that general Uniformity in the Annual General Estimate of the Expected, and the Annual General Account of the Actual Receipts and Disbursements of the Hon'ble Company's Affairs in India, than any theoretical Instructions that could be given.

5th. It will appear from a reference to the Proceedings adverted to in the Margin that the Arrangement which has taken place in the Duties of the Offices of Accountant General, Sub-Treasurer, and Civil Paymaster, has enabled us, by a Simplification of the Public Accounts, and the Suppression of useless repetitions of Detail and unnecessary Mediums of Official record, to carry your Orders into effect with a Considerable reduction of expence, instead of the Augmentation Authorized in this Paragraph, and we doubt not that the Encouragement, which Lord Cornwallis has recommended to be given to your Servants to engage in this line will produce a Satisfactory Execution of those orders which you have deemed of the highest importance to the Interest of the Company.

6th. The Account No. 11 sent with Lord Cornwallis Address of the 10th January 1788 was transmitted for the purpose of correcting a Mistake in the Estimate which had been formed of the probable Amount of the Company's Debts on the 30th of April 1787, which Accompanied his Lordship's former Letter of November 1786. It is now therefore the less necessary to enter into any Explanations upon this Subject, more particularly as, in Obedience to the Instructions contained in the letter from the Hon'ble Court of Directors dated the 20th of August 1788. We shall in future Confine our Observations to the Amount of your Debts at the Periods for which they are annually ascertained.

on that Subject should hereafter be carried on by the Governor General in Council with your Hon'ble Court, instead of the Seperate communications which have hitherto taken place from Lord Cornwallis, individually, to the Secret Committee. The Governor General has Accordingly laid before the Board a Copy of his Correspondence with your Committee on the State of the Finances of India. This has been recorded, and together with the future Observations you will receive from us relating to them, will form a Connected and Compleat View of your Affairs, and Comprehend every information of the Progressive state of them, which can be useful and desirable to future Governments to obtain. We find that when Lord Cornwallis had the honor to Address the Secret Committee on the 10th of January 1788 he was unacquainted with the Remarks of the Hon'ble Court of Directors, contained in their Separate Letter of the 31st of July 1787. To these we shall accordingly first reply, and afterwards to those parts of your General Letter of the 20th of August 1788 which are Applicable to the Subject of your Finances, giving our answers to the different Paragraphs, in the order in which they are placed in your Letters of the above dates.

2nd. The year of Account in Bengal expiring on the 30th April, in order to the Accountant General, enable us to Com-

Para 2d. ply with the Resolutions for submitting annually to the Inspection of Parliament a full state of the Company's Finances; reported to us the Necessity of being furnished with the Annual Books of the Offices of Government by the 31st of July following. His Recommendation was Adopted, and the General Books of the year 1787/8 having, by his Exertions, been Completed, they were dispatched by the William Pitt on the 17th of November 1788.

3rd. But the Prescriptions of the Act requiring that these Accounts should be laid before Parliament within the first

Para 2d. fourteen sitting Days after 1st of February, an earlier Transmission of them seems indispensable, and the Accountant General having engaged to prepare the General Books for the very last year of Account in time to be transmitted to England on the 10th of August, under a condition that the subsidiary Books shall be delivered to his Office by the 30th of June. We shall exert ourselves to enforce the Performance of it, and hope that, in future, the Court of Directors will be thereby enabled to lay before Parliament the Information required within the Prescribed time and for this purpose the Hon'ble Court will we trust, Approve of the Governor General's Recommendation of the Annual Dispatch of a Packet about the Middle of August.

Deduct the Amount at which	
the Court stated the Loan to	
the Berar Government the	
Debt from Rogonaut Balances	
from the Northern Sircars and	
Investment Debts	1,72,21 000-0-0

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93 67 331 5 11

9th The only Observation which it can now be necessary to make on the Comparisons alluded to in these Paragraphs Paras 14 15 16 & 17 and the Arguments deduced there from is that only a very inconsiderable part of the Military Arrears of the Madras and Bombay Presidencies on the 31st of December 1785 could have been included in the Statement of the Quick Stock of this Presidency on 31st of October 1786 which was transmitted by the William Pitt and that the Inequality subsisting between the Income of this Government during the first and the last Six Months of the year of Account in the former of which it affords a much smaller Surplus applicable to the Discharge of Certificates than in the latter must ever render the Appearance of these Debts more unfavourable on the 31st of October than on the 30th of April

10 In the 6th Paragraph of Lord Cornwallis's Letter dated the 10th January 1788 he has admitted the Justness of the reasoning contained in this Paragraph and we trust it will be found that it has been carried into Practice in the estimate No 25 as well as in Computing the Probable amount of the Balance against the Company on the 30th of April 1788

11th As the Arreas undischarged by the Madras Presidency on 30th of April 1788 amounting to Pagodas 476 949 Paras 19 20 & 21 13 57 on Current Rupees 20,27 034 13 11 exceed those undischarged on the 30th of April 1787 by Pagodas 3,52 907 20 48 CRS 14 99 857 10-9 we cannot but apprehend that its resources have been inadequate to the Current Expences of its Establishments exclusive of the Pay of his Majesty's Troops which has been defrayed by this Government

12th The imperfect state of the Bombay Estimate for 1786/7 puts it out of our power to afford you any Satisfactory observations on the Conclusions which you have Drawn from Comparing the Estimate of that Presidency for 1786/7 with accounts of a former year and to this it will be almost unnecessary to add that the Debts of the Bengal Presidency would have been considerable under their present Account if no more



7th It may however be proper to Notice that the Allowance which  
 it was thought necessary to make of Current Rupees  
 Paras 8 & 9 Sixty four Lacks for Apparent Omissions in the  
 Accounts of the other Presidencies has fallen short  
 of the actual Amount by Current Rupees 6,50 182 6 11 instead of  
 exceeding it as you had every reason to suppose from the imperfect  
 Knowledge of the Bombay Accounts then before you, and from the  
 want of Precision in the 5th Para of Lord Cornwallis's Letter of  
 the 16th of Novr 1786 This result will be shewn from the Accom-  
 anying Statement No 13 proving the Military Arrears at Madras to  
 be Curr Rupees 97 27,431 10 8 instead of Current Rupees 66 49 507  
 as exhibited in the Statement of the Quick Stock of that Presidency  
 of the 31st January 1786 and that those of Bombay have Amounted  
 to Current Rupees 39 96,527 6 1 instead of Current Rupees 24 269 9 10  
 The Extract No 14 will shew that this last sum was all that could  
 have been Allowed for in the Quick Stock Statement of that Presi-  
 dency and its Subordinates for the 30th of April 1786

8th As it will be a Rule that your Debts are to be Stated in  
 future without any reference to your Assets it  
 Paras 10 11 12 & 13 becomes unnecessary to trouble you with a parti-  
 cular reply to these Paragraphs We shall however  
 observe an explanation of the Doubt Suggested in regard to the sum  
 of Ninetyfour Lacks Supposed to have been allowed by his Lordship  
 for a further increase of Military Arrears and for Several dubious  
 Articles of outstanding Debts not particularly Specified that it is the  
 Difference between the Amount of the Allowance made by him for  
 the outstanding Debts of the three Presidencies which were not reckoned  
 available Assets and the four Sums which you Allowed for them

Outstand ng Debts at Bengal 1 57 03 658 15 5

Deduct what were Deemed  
 available 61 27 000 0 0

Brought ford 95 76 658 15 5

Outstanding Debts

at Madras 1,27 45 690-4-0

at Bombay 64 05 982 2 6

---

1 91 51672-6-6

deem d available 21,40 600-0-0

---

1 70 11 672-6-6

---

2 65 88331 5 11

ingly computed, and would Appear Comparatively less than the Amount at which it would really have Stood if these Payments had been made in the Course, and deducted from the Profits of former Years and as the mode lately adopted for disposing of the Salt by Public Sale Secures to the Company the entire Whole-Sale Profit upon that Article there is Reason to expect that the Revenue drawn from it will rather exceed than fall Short of the produce of former Years. With Respect to the opium, the fluctuating State of the Eastern Markets at which it is ultimately disposed of must always create a Corresponding Effect upon the Sales of that Article in Bengal. We see however, at present no particular Grounds during the Continuance of the existing Contract, for Estimating their Amount at less than the Average of the last two or three years.

16th. We trust you will Approve in general of the Arrangements that have been made, and the Amount to which we  
 - Paras. 33 to 42 have endeavored to limit the Current Charges of this Government. The Statements which Accompany this address, and the Estimates of each Branch of the Service, either as collected with their Produce or Disbursements, we are persuaded will afford you the most distinct Information, and, altho' in a Comparison of each Separate Entry on the General Books of 86/7 & 87/8 with the same Articles as detailed in the Estimates for those years, there may have been some Variation, yet we have every reason, from a View of the aggregate Amount of the Bengal Resources, Compared with the probable Disbursements, to Confirm you in the Expectation of drawing from hence a Surplus Revenue of more than two Crore of Current Rupees.

17th. We observe therefore with much pleasure that, after providing for the Pay of the King's Troops at Madras, and for the Requisite Supplies to the Presidency of Bombay, to  
 Para. 43 Bencoolen, and Prince of Wales' Island to defray their Current Charges, even since the late Augmentation of his Majesty's Troops serving in India, there will in all probability be a greater Fund than you have reckoned upon in this Paragraph, from which provision is to be made for your Commercial Charges in India, for the purchase of Investments to be sent to Europe, and for the Discharge of the Interest and Principal of your Indian Debts.

18th. You may be assured that we shall pay the utmost Attention to the Suggestions contained in these Paragraphs,  
 - Paras. 44 & 45 in the annual Allotment of Funds for the Provision of an Investment, and that the amount will be extended, as far as the state of your Finances and a necessary Attention

had been disbursed from hence on Account of the other Presidencies since the 30th of April 1787, than would have been required to Afford them the Supplies estimated by You in these Paragraphs.

13th. As the Hon'ble Court are aware that the Extent and Nature of their Concerns of this Presidency must unavoidably render the Calculations precarious upon which our Estimates are formed we shall only assure you that the utmost precaution will always be taken to guard as much as possible against the uncertainty to which such Accounts are liable.

14th. We have Attended very particularly to your Remarks on the Estimated Amount of Resources from the Land Revenues for the year 1786/7 which you were of Opinion should hardly have been computed at more than 3 Crores, of Current Rupees. The nearer Approximation of the estimate has since however been confirmed by the Result of our Collections in the Course of that year, which Amounted to Current Rs. 3,09,85,902.6.10. and in the year 1787/8 to Current Rupees 3,00,49,971.6.11. We might probably therefore be Authorized even in taking the Average of the two last years Collections, as the foundation of our Estimates for the Current year, particularly as the uncollected Balance of the year 1787/8 was more by Current Rupees 9,22,810.6.1. a greater sum being realized in the Current year from the Balance of than that of 86/7, and might consequently Justify the expectation of Revenue than had been derived from the same source in the preceding one. But, as we wish, above all things, to avoid holding out a prospect of your Resources which the Event may not Justify, we shall content ourselves with stating our land Revenues at CRS 3,01,16,031-10-0. The Actual Receipts of Customs in 86/7 & 87/8 will be found to have considerably exceeded their estimated Amount for those Years, but Since the Abolition of the Government Customs, which has taken place in Consequence of your Orders, a Material Reduction will have fallen on this branch of your Resources We conceive however that we shall not have overrated their future produce by stating them for the Current year at Ct Rupees 9,69,240.

15th. In order to explain the cause of the Net Profit on Salt having been estimated for 86/7 at only CRs. 47,56,000. it will be Sufficient to refer you to the General Books of 86/7 & 87/8; which contain no less a sum than Sa. Rs. 11,59,669, 15.11. of the Profit of Fieeka Salt appropriated to the discharge of the Debt owing by the Zemindars of the Salt Districts to Merchants when the present System, which they alledged to have deprived them of the means of discharging those Debts, was commenced. The Profit of the System for those two Years was Accord-

23rd We have already pointed out the principal cause to which  
the insufficiency of the Account stating the difference

Para. 34 between the Actual and Estimate Receipts and  
Disbursements of the Bengal Government for 1786/7

should be attributed so as to enable you to Judge how far the expectations exhibited by the Estimate transmitted for the same year had been realized Even so late as the 10th of March 1788 the Accountant General had not been furnished with the Adjusted Annual Accounts of the Receipts and Disbursements of the Officers of the Revenue Department for the year, 85/6 We should hope however that you will find No 1 the General Account of the Receipts and Disbursements of this Government for the year 1787/8 Satisfactorily detailed and altho No 2, which is the Comparison of that Account with the Estimate for the same year may not exactly correspond with your Instructions on this point, the Estimate not having been formed under the expectation of your requiring a closer Comparison yet we are inclined to expect that it will not be found to differ materially from your present Instructions

24th Not having ever been furnished with the Account alluded to  
in this Paragraph; we have it not in our power

Para 35 to offer any Remark on the Circumstances to which  
you imputed the difference between the Amount of  
the Actual Collections of the Board of Revenue at Madras and the sum  
at which they were Estimated for 1786/7

25th You will find the Accounts of the Receipts and Disbursements of the Presidencies of Madras and Bombay

Paras 36 & 37 for the year 1787/8 too defective of detail to Afford  
the means of forming the Correct comparison  
required by your Orders of the 31st July 1787 Our Accountant General has, however endeavoured by the Statements No 4 & No. 6 to afford you the best information that could be drawn from those Materials.

26th It being our Intention to Observe the Rule followed by you  
in Stating to Parliament the amount of your Debts

Paras 38 39 & 40 in India we shall merely observe on these Paragraphs that you will find the conclusion which you deduced from the Statements adverted to therein corroborated by those which Accompany this Address These will prove that the Amount of your India Debts on the 30th of April 1786 must have far exceeded any supposition which you could heretofore have formed of their extent

to Public Credit will prudently warrant Yet Although the Discount upon your Certificates has during the last twelve Months fallen much below what was expected while the amount of the paper in Circulation was so considerable we do not conceive that your Interests could ultimately have been promoted by an extension of the Public Credit of this Government, for a proportionable Augmentation of the Sum Allotted for the Provision of an Investment, especially as the slow progress made in the Transfer of your Indian Debts affords the strongest Grounds for supposing that such a measure could not be effected without producing a prolongation of that Burthen upon your Settlements abroad which the Transfer was intended to remove

19th Having already fully detailed to you the discussions which were given to this important Subject before the Resolutions adopted on the 31st of March 1788 were passed we need but in this place refer you to the Minute recorded upon the proceedings of that date in the Public Department for the Grounds upon which the new Terms and Conditions were Offered to the Public Creditors for the Transfer of your Debts

Paras 46 47 48  
49 & 50

20th Although the rate of Exchange, at which the Star Pagodas have been Converted into Current Rupees informing the Annual Accounts of the Estimated and Actual Receipts and Statements of the Debts & ca of the three presidencies may be considerably higher than it was known to be at any period preceding the War, it Approaches too nearly to the rate at which the Madras Government have continued to draw upon us for the Pay of the King's Troops to Authorize an Alteration in the Principle of our General Statements But you will find that none of your Debts at Madras have been actually transferred to England at so high a Valuation.

Para 51

21th The Relief which has hitherto been Afforded by the Transfer to your Indian Resources may perhaps have fallen short of your Expectations, but on this point we shall not enlarge at present nor shall we enter into a discussion of the Measures which it may be necessary to adopt in further prosecution of that important object we trust that you will consider the Supplies which have in the last two years been Afforded to the Canton Treasury to be as ample as the State of your Finances at this Presidency would admit

Para 52

22nd We shall next proceed to state such Remarks as seem necessary to be made by us upon the Observations that occurred to you on the Investigation of the Accounts and Estimates which Accompanied Lord Cornwallis's Letter to the Secret Committee dated the 10th of January 1788

Answer to the  
Genl Letter Public  
Dept 20 Augt 88  
Para. 33

Amount of the Register on 29 Feby.

Deduct

Certificates in the hands of  
the Company's Officers 23,94,532-9-8.

1,57,25,893-5-3.

Amount of the Register on  
28th February 1789 1,59,34,441-8-10.

Deduct

Certificates in the hands of  
the Company's Officers 25,48,522-0-0.

1,33,85,919-8-10.

23,39,973-12-5.

30th. Your Observation on the Report of the late Secretary which  
is alluded to in this Paragraph is too Just to require  
Para. 45 more than an admission of the Conclusion which  
has been deduced from it.

31st. We have already pointed out to you the cause of the insuffi-  
ciency of the Account stating the Difference between  
Paras. 46 & 47 the Estimate and the Actual Receipts and Disburse-  
ments of 1786/7 and we trust that you will find  
the account of the Receipts and Disbursements of the Bengal Govern-  
ment for 1787/8 exhibit every Article of information adverted to in  
these Paragraphs as well as prove that the Event was more favourable  
than the Estimate, the Actual having exceeded the Estimated Collec-  
tions from the Land Revenues by CRS. 6,37,736.14.5 notwithstanding  
that the Circumstances alluded to in this Paragraph had induced you  
to Apprehend a very different Contingency.

32nd. It will be found that there was not any actual Omission of the  
expected amount of the Charges of Buildings and  
Para 48 Fortifications for the years 1786/7 and 1787/8 in  
the Estimates of those years. We Acknowledge,  
however, that these Services ought to have been distinctly stated, as  
they are in the Estimate of 1788/9, but although the only mode by  
which the Amount of Military Charges for 1786/7 could be computed  
early in August 1787 did not Afford the means of ascertaining the  
Charges of Building and Fortifications, a deduction would have been  
made for the Difference between the Amount included in the Dead  
Stock Statement of the 30th of April 1786 and in that of the 30th of  
April 1787, had the Accountant General been aware of your being so  
desirous that those Disbursements should be Separately estimated.

We are however strongly inclined to Suppose, that the whole amount of your Debts will now be before you, and we most cordially unite with you in hoping that your Affairs will henceforward continually assume a more favourable Aspect.

27th It has afforded us great Satisfaction to find that you had been pleased to Approve of the continued exertions made

Para. 41 by this Government for the relief of the other Presidencies, You will perceive from the Statements

Nos 26 & 27 that the Discount on your Certificates has fallen much below the Rate at which it stood in the Month of December 1787 You have been regularly informed of the Detail and effect of those measures which were Adopted in Consequence of your Instructions of the 31st July 1787 and as a considerable part of the Debt remains still unsubscribed for in Bengal as well as at Madras and Bombay we shall hereafter give you our Sentiments whether any more effectual Plan can be devised to promote a speedier discharge of the Capital of your Debts, or for a reduction of their present Interest

28th Having already acquiesced in the Justness of the Arguments urged by the Hon'ble Court, in Support of the Rule

Paras 42 & 43 observed by them in stating annually to Parliament their Debts without any reference to their Assets in

India, We shall not fail to pay due attention to the Observance of that Rule, and therefore need not offer any Remarks upon the difference alluded to in the first of these Paragraphs

29th The large sum of Estimated Excess in the Disbursements beyond the Receipts of this Presidency for the year

Para. 44 1787/8 could not fail to attract your Serious Notice, and the Conclusion which you have drawn from not

observing in the Accounts of the other Presidencies a diminution of Debt at all equal to the Amount by which the Supplies made to them by this Government, in the year 1786/7 and 1787/8, must necessarily have exceeded the Current Expenses of those years will be found corroborated by the Statements which Accompany this Address We are however, extremely happy to offer to your Observation that the excess of the Estimated Disbursements in Bengal above the Receipts of the year 1788/9 is Current Rupees 52 11,193 6 5 less than that of the year 1787/8 after the addition made to the Investment of 1788/9 was allowed for, and that the Amount of Certificates actually in Circulation at the End of February 1789 is less by Current Rupees 23,39 973 12 5 than it was at the same period of last year as will more clearly appear from the following statement

37th We have now only to refer you to the Several Estimates for 1788/9 and after Separating as far as we are able

Para 53 the Current Receipts and Charges of the year from Arrears or such as are Extraordinary the Result as it appears to us will be as follows

### Current Revenue

At Bengal		5 46 80 759 8 5
At Madras Ps	34 46 133 17 38	1 46 46 067 5 0
At Bombay Rs	11 47 138 0-0	13 30 680-1 4
		<hr/> 7 06 57 506-14-9

### Current Charges

At Bengal		3 05 28 157 1 4
At Madras Ps	32 76 219 9-44	1 39 23 931 14 0
At Bombay Rs	44 66 218 0-52	51 80 813-0-7
		<hr/> 4 96 32 901 15 11

Net [*sic*] Revenues of the three Presidencies 2 10 24 604-14-10

To this may be added the following Revenue of the Guntoor Sircar agreeable to information received from thence

Pagodas 2 50 000-0-0 10 62 500

Deduct

The Peishcush payable to the Nizam for this and the other Sircars Ps 1 86 666-24-

or

7 93 333-5-4

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2 69 166-10-8

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2 12,93 771 9 6

From this Sum the following Allowances seem Necessary to be deducted.

First for an excess in the Expected Receipts from the Sales of Salt in 1788/9 beyond the Average of the two last Years

26 72,336-13-7



33rd The Observations contained in these Paragraphs have been  
 most Seriously considered by us and the Arrange  
 Par 49 & 50 ment which has taken place in Several of the  
 Principal officers at the Presidency has produced a  
 considerable diminution of your Expences We should therefore hope  
 that th Confidence which you have expressed is a Disposition which  
 you may be assured We shall steadfastly adhere to for making every  
 practicable Reduction in your Expences will induce you to be persuaded  
 that we have carried them to the utmost Extent that was consistent  
 with the Competency of the Existing Establishments for an Efficient  
 management of your Affairs

34th The Comparison No 4 and the Estimate No 17A will be  
 found to Confirm the Opinion which you had formed  
 Para 51 of the probable increase in your Expences on the  
 Coast in the Military Department of hat  
 Government

35 We cannot avoid expressing our regret that although the  
 Accountant of the Bombay Presidency appears to  
 Para 52 have taken much more than ordinary pains as well  
 in the formation of the Estimate of the probable  
 Receipts and Disbursements of that Presidency and its Subordinates  
 for 1788/9 as in that of the Account of the actual Receipts and  
 Disbursements of 1787/8 your Orders for the Correspondence of the  
 latter in point of form with the Estimate of the same year should have  
 been construed to warrant the introduction of sums as Disburse  
 ments which have not Actually been paid for this is in fact no more  
 than to re estimate what must at the time have been reduced to a  
 matter of certainty This misconception of your Orders renders it  
 impracticable to ascertain in how far the increase in the Debts of  
 that Government on the 30th of April 1788 should be Attributed to  
 an excess in the Current Charges of the year 87/8 or to a deficiency  
 in the Amount at which the Debts of that Presidency on the 30th of  
 April 1787 were stated

36th. We are equally sorry to say that the Account of the Receipts  
 and Disbursements of the Madras Government for 1787/8 is by no  
 means Satisfactory as it will be found to contain no discrimination  
 between the Issues made to defray the Charges of former years and  
 those on Account of the Current Year It will be our care however  
 to instruct them more fully on this point and to adopt Such measures  
 as may tend to Secure the future transmission of your Accounts not  
 only to the latest period to which they can be prepared but con  
 formable to the plan of uniformity which it is your wish to Establish.

Together with what may arise from the Sale  
of Import Goods and stores and from  
Certificates which for the year 1789.9 Appears  
to be the Estimated No. 23

37,70,230-0-0.

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Making in the whole the Amount applicable  
to the Provision of Investment, and to the  
Supplies to the other Settlements and China

1,62,93,051-12-10.

38th. From the above Statement you will have the Satisfaction to  
find that the opinions expressed in your Letter of

Para. 55 the 31st of July 1787 are likely to be fully Substan-  
tiated, as far as relates to the Means of purchasing

Investments to the Extent Required for Supplying your Sales in  
England and for the Regular Payment of the Interest in your India  
Debts.

39th. As you have remarked on the Circumstance of the Estimates  
and Accounts of 1787/8 not reaching you untill the

Paras. 56 & 57 beginning of April, We cannot expect that the Still  
later Arrival of them this Year will escape your Ani-

madversion; but we beg leave to refer you to the Accountant General's  
Letter of the 5th Instant a Copy of which No. 29 accompanies this  
address, in Explanation of the Causes of this delay; One of which has  
been the ill State of his Health for some time past; which we are  
sorry to offer as the Excuse for withholding these Accounts so long  
from You, as it is a Circumstance of which this Government feels the  
Inconvenience, whenever they are deprived by it of the benefit of his  
Assistance, and to this we must Add the Evidence of our own  
Observations, that he has *risqued much in the present State of his*  
Health to effect the transmission of these Statements by the present  
Opportunity.

40th. We refer you to our Separate Letter of the 13th February  
1789 to the Deputy Governor and Council of Fort Marlbro' which  
will fully explain our inability to make any allowance for the Amount  
either of the Revenue or Expence of that Settlement or that of the  
Debts owing there by the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Company.

Fort William

12th March 1789.

[Per Northumberland.]

We have the Honour to be & Ca.

Secondly for the insufficiency of the Sum stated in the Madras Estimate as the Expende of His Majesty's Troops Serving there : of the former Payments made to Mr Burke in 1786/7 68,095-0-0.  
For too of the New raised Regiments CRs 6,50,000-0-0 1,52,941-0-0.

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Ps. 2,11,036-0-0.

8,96,903-0-8

To avoid an unnecessary degree of detail - the Estimated Expende of 2 Regiments is allowed for at Madras, altho' we are aware that a part of One is at Bengal, and a part of the other not yet Arrived from Europe Thirdly for the other Regiment of His Majesty's Troops Stationed at Bombay which as that Government have allowed 3 Lacs for one, the remainder of the Moiety of the Sum at which the Expende of the four Regiments was estimated by you is 3,02,000-0 0

Fourthly by the Additional Expende of Completing the Establishment orderd at Bombay computed by them at 3,48,000-0 0.

38,71,239,137-

Fifthly for the Remittance of the expected Deficiency of 38,79,424 3-83 in the Bombay Revenue at the Exchange of 10508 Calcutta Siccas P Bombay Rupees

2,47,507-5-0.

Total of encreased Expende & Extra Revenue which taken from the Neat Revenue before Stated of .

44,66,747-2-7.]

There Remains

2,12,93,771-9-6.

1,68,27,024-6-11.]

from which, deducting the Amount of Interests on the Debts as Stated in the Account No 24

43,04,202-10-1.

The Remainder Amounting to

1,25,22,821-12-1 0.

## LETTER DATED 10 AUGUST 1789

*Stationery—China remittance—proposal for dak service with western India—remittances to Bombay—exchange of Bengal bonds with other Presidencies and Benkulen—arrival of troops at Fort Marlbro'—commercial intercourse with Manila—commercial treaty with Nawab Vazir—case of Blaquier—relief for insolvent debtors—salt—Tyler's rice contract—Horrebow's trial and proposed regulation against slavery—Asiatic Researches—Kyd and the Botanical Garden.*

TO the Hon'ble Court of Directors & ca.

Hon'ble Sirs,

1. Our Proceedings in this Department from the 1st of March 1789 to the end of July including the different Divisions, except the Commercial from which we shall separately address you, are transmitted, with Indexes by the Swallow Packet.

2. We have the honour to acknowledge the Receipt of your Duplicate, dated the 18th of February 1789, which were first received by your Ship Melville Castle on the 26th of June. Our Answers to the several Paragraphs, and observations on the subjects of them, are now laid before you.

3. General Letter Pub. Dept. 18th February 1789.

Para. 1. Date of your last advices	}	These Paragraphs require no answer.
2. Do. of advices received		
3. Members of the Secret Committee		

4. We shall only observe upon the subject of this Paragraph that the mode for liquidating the Salaries to the Judges

Para 4. Respecting bills for 1770 0 3 granted on account the salaries to the Judges	was adopted at their request, that they could not be paid wholly in Cash at the Presidency unless a Deviation were admitted from the rules laid down for Payment of the Salaries to the Members of Government, as well as to the servants to the Company, and that, in gratifying the expectations of the Judges, in the Instance in question, we yielded to them a Difference between the higher and lower rates of exchange which did not appear to us very material on the Sum for which we granted bills in their favor. they are now and have for several Months been paid in Calcutta the whole amount of their Salaries in Cash.
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Vide general letter dated the Para [sic.]

extent of ten Lacs of Current Rupees in the event of any Tenders of Cash being made to them for bills upon this Government, on terms that they may think reasonable.

20. Our Applications to the Presidencies of Fort St. George and Bombay for Statement of the actual Remittances from thence to China,

on the Company's account during the last three  
 Consn. 4th March Years have been attended to. The Statements, how-  
 25th March ever, afford little information. Remittances to any  
 24th April great amount have not lately been made from Fort  
 St. George, the freight of your Chartered Ships excepted from Bombay  
 they appear to have been more considerable; but the Statements from  
 both include the sums, which are stipulated to be paid into your  
 Treasury at Canton for Bills on your Honorable Court.

21. We have not been furnished with any estimates of the Sums likely to be remitted to China from the Presidencies of Fort St. George and Bombay in the next Year, and your Government

Consn. 24th April of Bombay have expressed their Doubts to us of  
 being able to forward this information in any year  
 by the period at which we should require it.

22. Our advices from your Supra Cargoes are not of a latter date than the 24th of November 1788, altho' a Certificate from them dated the 8th of February 1789 setting forth that Messrs

Consn. 1st May Price and Co. have discharged their engagements in full, has been delivered to us. The final adjustment of the Interest Account with that Firm has been referred to Your Accountant General.

23. Our Proceedings noted in the Margin contain the different

Consn. 6th Feby. letters that have been written to your Supra Cargoes  
 15th April and forwarded to Fort St. George to be conveyed  
 22d April by the China Ships of this Season.  
 1st May  
 19th June  
 17 July  
 5th Augt.

#### Fort St. George

24. The early arrival at Fort St. George of our Duplicate letter dated the 12th March, and the Accounts transmitted with it which

Consn 15 April were forwarded in the hope of their reaching  
 22nd April Madras before the Departure of the Dublin, sug-  
 Secret Dep. gested to us the Idea of adopting some Plan for  
 Consn. 9th Jan. accelerating the Communication between this Presi-  
 1789. dency and that of Fort St. George, and of proceeding, upon a scheme before us establishing a regular Intercourse by Dawk with the West of India by the way of Hyderabad and Poona.

11. Para 13 @ 20. Require no Answer.
12. Para 21st Respecting the Pilot Schooner's sent round from Bombay. The Accounts of the Pilot Schooners built at Bombay were not completely furnished until lately. They have been sent to your Marine Officers with Instructions to deliver in a particular Account of the state and condition &c. in every respect in which the Vessels arrived, and we shall communicate their answer to you as soon as we receive it.
13. Para 22nd. Needs no reply.
14. Para 23rd Fixing the amount to be charged for the Moorings at Diamond Harbour. This Paragraph has been communicated to the Marine Officers for their Information & guidance.
15. Para 24 @ 32. Need no reply.
16. Para 33 Declining Mr. Smith's proposals for a China Remittance. We have informed Mr. Smith in general terms, of the substance of this Paragraph. Our letters of the last Season, and other parts of this Address, will make you fully acquainted with the Resolutions we have passed for throwing Supplies into your Treasury at Canton.
17. 34 @ 38. Require no Answer.
18. The bill of exchange noticed in your Secy's letter of the 21st February 89 will be accepted, & discharged when it becomes due.

## Canton

19. Our letter of the 22nd December 1788 will have advised you, before your Receipt of this of the mode in which our principal Remittances to your Supra Cargoes have been settled for the Current year. The Amount [of] Sales of some Salt Petre to Messrs. Bayne and Colvins in Calcutta has been since appropriated to that purpose, and we have authorized the Supra Cargoes to draw upon us to the
- Consn. 6th July  
15th May  
19th June

## Bombay

31. We beg leave to refer you to our Proceedings noted in the Margin for a Review of the Correspondence which has passed between your Government of Bombay and Mr. Malet, the Resident at Poona, Mr. Duncan Resident at Benares, our Accountant General, and ourselves; on the Subject of Remittances to the West of India the means of reducing the rate of exchange, and the engagement which we have authorized to be entered into with the Shroffs under such Limitations and Restrictions as appeared regular.

Consn. 13th March  
16th March  
20th March  
27th March  
10th April  
15th April  
17th April  
1st May  
8th May  
18th June  
20th July.

32. By the Arrangement now settled, which is to be in force for One Year, the Monthly Sum of two Lacs and an half of Bombay Rupees will be paid into the Treasury there for Bills upon Benares, at the exchange of 93 Bombay for 100 Benares Rupees, drawn at 51 days sight, and payable as the state of the Benares Treasury will admit. At the same time an Opening has been reserved for Mr. Maletts Zeal to be successfully exerted in exciting [*sic*] a competition among the Shroffs; for Authority has been left with him to grant bills upon Benares for Money paid into the Bombay Treasury, whenever this can be effected on more favourable terms.

33. The Plan, which we had in contemplation of sending round Gold Mohurs as Remittance to Bombay is relinquished altogether, your President in Council there having given it as his decided Opinion, founded upon a Report from the Assistant Treasurer, that it cannot, in any view, be considered a favourable mode of supply.

Consn. 4th March  
13th March.

34. In the 103d. Paragraph of our letter dated the 13th December 1787 we informed you of our Intention to admit the Exchange of Bonds granted at the other Présidencies and Ben-coolen for Bengal Bonds, in Case the orders then expected from your Hon'ble Court should produce no alteration in the System of our Finances. Our design in this respect was, however, set aside afterwards by an Opinion communicated to us from Bombay that an Offer of such nature would not be accepted by the Bond Creditors at that Presidency. Mr. Wilkinson solicited the Indulgence, and it was conceded to him. We have lately learnt that a General Extension of the Permission allowed to Mr. Wilkinson would be acceptable to many others of the Bond Creditors, and have therefore published an advertizement to the following effect.

Consn. 31st March  
1788.

25. The former depending upon your own Governments will, we have no Doubt, be effected by arrangements to result from a Communication of Sentiments and Plans between your Officers here and at Fort St. George. Our Consultations noted in the Margin exhibit all that has hitherto occurred upon this subject.

26. The latter depending in some Degree upon the Nizams acquiescence (that of the Poona Government having been obtained) Instructions to apply for it were forwarded to Captain Kennaway, who availed himself of a proper Opportunity to propose it, when the Nizam acceded to it so far as to allow the necessary People to be Stationed thro' his Country, subject to Captain Kennaway's control tho' hired and paid by himself.

27. A letter upon this subject from the Resident at Poona, written before he could be apprized of the authority we had given Captain Kennaway to establish the Dawk upon the footing acceded to by Nizam Ally, is recorded with further Resolutions concerning it on our Proceedings of the 20th Ultimo.

28. An application has been made to us by your Government of Fort St. George, to assist them if possible, at the Opening of the shipping Season with a Supply of 30,000 Bags of Rice, and they have expressed a wish that Individuals may be allowed to export Grain from Bengal, for their Presidency provided our Prospects of a good Harvest should allow of it.

29. The appearance of a good Harvest in Bengal being not sufficiently favourable to Warrant us at present in taking off the Embargo on the Exportation of Grain, we have only to hope that a plentiful Season will enable us to relieve the wants of the Carnatic without Inconvenience or Distress to these Provinces.

30. Observing in a letter from Fort St. George an expression which will bear no other constructions than that they have only been furnished with private information that the Swallow will be dispatched to you in August, We think it proper in Justification of Ourselves upon this Occasion to forward to you as a number in the Packet Copy of a letter which we wrote to them on the 17th February fully apprizing them of our Intentions and Copy of a letter from their Secretary dated 14th March acknowledging the receipt of it.



representation from your Accountant General, containing Arguments which we deemed incontrovertible induced us afterwards to admit the whole of the Bond as a Subscription to the Remittance.

40. The Arguments upon which our Resolution was founded have been communicated to your Government of Bombay, to whom we have further observed, that, unless Deviations from established usage have been expressly authorized by a formal Resolution passed on a peculiar Exigency of public affairs, the Officers by whose Negligence such Practices have been introduced and by which the Company is now exposed to the Risk of considerable Loss, ought to be made responsible for the amount in any manner the Government may think proper to prescribe.

#### Fort Marlbro

41. Your Ship Lord Macartney sailed from hence to Fort Marlbro on the 26th of February. The Troops embarked on her were landed there on the 27th of March; and Captain Hay proceeded to Bombay according to our Original Instructions, Justice to this Gentlemen, and encouragement to others, in Command of your Ships on which the Native Troops may be transported from one Place to another in India, to follow his example require us to bear Testimony, in very strong terms to the careful conduct of Captain Hay in his treatment of the Sepoys sent in his to Bencoolen, and we beg leave to recommend him, on this account to your Hon'ble Court for any mark of favour that you may think him entitled to for a strict attention to the orders given to him, and a liberal consideration to the prejudices of the people under his Care.

42. The Disturbances, for which the Detachment was wanted had nearly subsided before its arrival on the West Coast, best [but?] your Deputy Governor and Council deemed it advantageous to your Interests to detain the Troops for some time, in the view of making a suitable impression upon the minds of the Native and of preventing, in all likelihood, a renewal of the same occasion for Military Assistance for this Presidency.

43. We have requested the Governor in Council at Fort St. George to dispatch one of the Coast and Bay Ships to Fort Marlbro in order to bring back the Troops and we have given Instructions to the Commander relative to their treatment on board, We desired that the order for proceeding to Bencoolen might fall upon the Coast and Bay Ship last arrived when the order reached Madras, or if now of them should be there at the time upon the first that should arrive afterwards. It happens the chesterfield to be employed upon this Service which will not interfere with her dispatch from hence to Europe at the period which would otherwise be appointed for her sailing.

35. That the Sub Treasurer was authorized to comply with applications made to him by persons at this Presidency possessing Companies Interest Notes granted at Fort St. George, Bombay, and Bencoolen (or Certificates given at either that Bonds had been delivered up for the amount) and desirous of obtaining Bengal Bonds in exchange for them, such Bengal Bonds to be issued at the following rates At 400 C.Rs. for 100 Pagodas. At 116 CRs. for 100 Bombay Rupees. At 250 CRs. for 100 Spanish Dollars.

36. We request your attention to some papers, which we shall forward in this Packet, containing the whole of our Correspondence and Proceedings upon an Application made to us by your Government of Bombay, in a letter dated the 9th of June 1788, that no Person possessing Bombay Treasury Bombay Bonds should be permitted to subscribe to our Bond Debt proposals until Reference had been first made to that Presidency, or until a correct Statement could be forwarded of what was due to all its Bond Creditors.

37. Our Advertizement of the 31st of March 1788, allowing persons residing in Bengal and possessing acknowledgement granted by the other Presidencies, to exchange them here for bills on your Hon'ble Court, it seems, had given alarm at Bombay lest many Bonds, heretofore granted by their Government should be in circulation and uncanceled, altho' the amount for which they were granted had been drawn out of the Treasury. A Bond granted at Bombay for Rupees 17,540.3 60 to Catharine Gage under date the 1st May 1782, is instanced as a Case in point, the Balance due upon that Bond appearing to be only Rupees 5132.3.65 Altho' the Bond for the whole amount was in the possession of a Gentleman in Bengal.

38. The Application was complied with, and altho' the Bond in question has been tendered in exchange for bills, we thought proper to postpone the admission of it until we should be furnished from Bombay with an account of the several Transactions that had passed in regard to it.

39. These were received on the 29th of December last, and referred to our Accountant General, who, in a letter dated the 4th February 1789 reported upon the several Documents, and suggested a Reference to the Advocate General, who after examining and arguing upon the several Circumstances that had occurred, proposed a Compromise with the Holders of the Bond, and we were disposed to adopt that measure upon the first suggestion of it, but a further

amount has been paid and that the Minister, has taken measures, which he trusts will secure the regular Discharge of the Subsidiary in future.

### Accounts & Audits

50. We forwarded to you by the Northumberland a Copy of a letter dated the 5th of March from our Accountant General relative to closing the annual Books. Our Resolutions upon  
 Consn. 25th March this Subject were passed on the 25th of the same Month, and communicated in due course to those Officers whose Province it was to furnish the Subsidiary Books of 1788/9, which were required to be sent to the Office of the Accountant General by an appointed time, to enable him to adjust them with the General Books of the same Year to be forwarded in the Swallow. This will be effected and we continue to entertain hopes that from the Zealous exertions of your Accountant General, aided by the Diligence and attention of your other Officers, the desirable object of furnishing you by the first Dispatch after the 30th of April with the General Books of the Settlement, closed to that period, will be attained annually.

51. We have been induced to withdraw the option allowed by the Regulations of the Secret Department of Inspection on the 25th of  
 Consn. 3d June January 1786, to Individuals to receive Certificates payable to Bearer, and directed that, infure [in future?] they should all be payable to orders in the first Instance.

52. We have also instructed your Accountant General from and after the 1st of July to keep a Book in his Office in form that will enable the Servant, who is to affix his signature to the Certificates tendered for Registry to ascertain whether any balance remains an drawn [undrawn] for on the warrant upon which the Certificates may have been issued.

53. These alterations were directed at the Recommendation of the Advocate General who was consulted in consequence of a Suggestion from Colonel Murray of the Expediency of changing the practice that had hitherto been in use, and of granting Warrants for issuing Certificates to one Officer only. His Opinion is recorded on the 3d of June.

54. We beg leave to point out to your particular notice a Report from the Accountant General which is recorded in our Public Proceedings of the 24th of July dating the Grounds on  
 Consn. 24th July, which Mr. William Byam Marlyn and Mr. John Wombwell are jointly debited in the General Books in the Sum of Ct. Rs. 2,320, that your Officers may receive Instructions to call upon these Gentlemen to refund the amount.

44. Our separate Proceedings noted in the Margin contain answers from your Residency of Fort Marlbro to the Instructions  
 Consn. 22d May which we sent to them on the 31st of March and 15th and 29th of December 1780. Our Reply to this and other letters from thence will exhibit a far alterations [sic] to which we have assented, at their recommendation.  
 Consn. 17th June in some points relative to Establishment expense, and general Arrangement. In their Proceedings there are references to your Hon'ble Court, to which we beg leave to request your attention.

#### Prince of Wales Island

45. Our Proceedings with respect to Prince of Wales Island in the present year exhibit very few Subjects that require particular communication to your Hon'ble Court. Our Intelligence and the general Opinion coincide that the Settlement is in a flourishing state.

46. We think proper to transmit to you by this Packet an Extract  
 Consn. 13th March of a letter dated the 10th of November 1788 from  
 Separate Proceedings. Captain Light in which he proposes the Outlines of a plan for establishing a Commercial Intercourse between Bengal and Manilla, and we beg leave to submit it to your Perusal.

#### Lucknow and Benares

47. Our Proceedings on the dates annexed will bring before you  
 Consn. 17th April the Correspondence and arrangements that have taken  
 29th May place in regard to the Commercial Treaty concluded  
 17th June with the Nabob Vizier in the Year 1787.  
 6th July  
 10th July  
 29th July

48. Some of the obstacles to an attainment of the utmost advantages that might be expected from the Treaty are stated in Mr. Ives's letters with his endeavours to effect the removal of them by holding forth to the Minister such Arguments as appeared best calculated for the purpose. In the course of the Correspondence with Mr. Ives you will observe two other subjects fully discussed; 1st an indemnification of Europeans for Property stolen from them in the Viziers Dominions 2ndly a desire intimated by the Nabob to prohibit all Europeans from residing in his Dominions for the purposes of commerce the Governor General's letter to the Resident at Lucknow Assign his Lordship's reasons for declining to adopt the proposal made by Mr. Ives in respect to the former, and for objecting to the Nabobs intentions as expressed upon the latter.

49. The Viziers account for the Month of June exhibits a balance  
 Consn. 20th July due by his Excellency of 690,406.13.8 Fyzabad 16-  
 5th August. Sun Sicca Rupees, but letters from Mr. Ives dated the 10 and 23rd of July inform us that the whole-

61. You will observe, upon Perusal of Minute that we have adopted the Reasons assigned by the Committee for ordering Money of the old balances to be written off we have expressed to the Committee our entire satisfaction with the attention which they paid to their duty during the whole of the investigation entrusted to them.

62. The Annual Register of Covenanted Servants, with a pre-fatory address from Our Civil Auditor, shewing the Principles on which the Register is formed, and explaining the nature of the information it contains is sent in this Dispatch, together with a Note of the name of those Servants who appeared to be in annual Receipt of larger allowances than are conceded to their standing in the Service by the late Act of Parliament. Our Resolutions in consequence are recorded on the 19th June.

63. We also forward to you by this conveyance an account of the Establishments of the Civil Department as they stood at the close of the last Year of Account, Vizt. the 30th of April 1789. These Establishments will at the first view appear to exceed, in amount, those made up to the 31st of October 1788. Yet the apparent excess is not owing to any real encrease of expense, but to several Articles of Disbursement being inserted in the present Establishment, which it was not thought necessary to state in the former, altho' they equally existed at the time.

64. Our Separate Proceedings will exhibit the Auditors Monthly Reports and our Resolutions upon all Contingent Charges incurred in the Different Departments at the Presidency, to the latest period that it was possible to decide upon them with due attention to other Business of Importance. His Audits of the Accounts of the Commercial Residents, Collectors of Revenue, and Salt Agents, are regularly submitted to us thro' the Boards of Revenue and Trade, with their Remarks upon each Article.

65. Our Proceedings will shew to what periods our Decisions upon these are passed, and altho' the Arrears are greater than we could wish we are confident in the expectation of being able to proceed upon them and advance quickly in bringing them up, when the Swallow's Despatches have been closed.

#### Law

66. It having been reported to us that the greater convenience and Accommodation of the Prisoners in the New Jail might be promoted by some alterations, at an inconsiderable additional expence beyond the Ori-

Consn. 24th April  
10th June  
9th June  
12th June

55. To the same Report we must also beg leave to refer you for detailed Information, and to request your Instructions, upon Orders we have given to debit the Nabob Mobarec ul Dowlah's account for the Sum of Rupees 150,417-10-13 and Rupees 7,66,622-2-10 and to Credit him for the sum of Rupees 1,23,751-15-13, which leaves the Balance standing to his Excellency's Credit reduced to the Account of his stipend for the Month of April 1789 until your Pleasure should be known.

56. At the request of Mr. Stephen Cassan, on the part of Colonel Nixon of the Madras Establishment, we have authorized two additional *Setts* of the Bills of exchange that were granted to him in January last in Liquidation of a Madras Certificate for Military Arrears amounting to Pagodas 6724,678, to be issued. Mr. Dunkin, the person to whom the first bills were entrusted for Delivery to Colonel Nixon on the Coast, having inadvertently carried them to England, Colonel Nixon was apprehensive that they might be lost or destroyed.

57. In case the past bills should have been presented your Officers will, of course, be guarded against accepting those which have been granted for Colonel Nixon's Security of the others should not appear [*sic*]

58. We forwarded to you by the Kent, and noticed to you in our letter by that Ship, the Documents which at that time appeared necessary to enable you to adopt such measures as your Law Officers might advise to enable you to substantiate a Claim against the Estate of Henry Richardson, which originated when he held the Office of Resident at the Court of Justice at Chinsura. In continuation and in fuller Explanation of the same Business we now transmit to you a Copy of a Report from our Accountant General, dated the 4th Instant, with Six Subsidiary papers, and the original Accounts of Receipts and Disbursements of Mr. Richardson after having reserved two Notarial Copies of the latter, One to remain as a Document in our Accountant General's Office the other to be sent home by the first chartered Ship.

59. In the 44 Paragraph of our letter dated the 22nd of December 1788 we apprized you that the Committee for investigating and recovering outstanding Balances was abolished from the end of November.

60. Our Minute and Resolution, upon a full Consideration of their last Report are transmitted in the present Dispatch, and we beg leave to call Your attention to such parts of it as require articles of balance to be continued upon our Books, until Your pleasure regarding them should be known.

Principal Sum with simple Interest at the rate of 8 per Cent per Annum and making the whole payable in three years, by such Installments Annually as might be most convenient to Mr. Blaquiere, on his Mortgaging his property; or such part of it as by fair appraisement should be judged equal to your Claim.

72. The Restructions [Restrictions?] in the Act of Parliament (24 Geo: 3 Chap: 25 Secn 51) did not escape our observation, when we passed the foregoing Resolution, and altho' at the first view it may not appear to be directly conformable to the letter of the Act we are satisfied that the spirit thereof will be found to correspond with it.

73. Our Resolution upon the second point in Mr. Blaquiere's application will be communicated to you in our Commercial letter by this Dispatch.

74. On the 4th Instant a final Decree was made in the Supreme Court in the cause in which the Hon'ble Company were Complainants and William Barton and Jacob Blaquiere were Defendants by which Mr. Barton is decreed to pay to the Hon'ble Company the Sum of Ct. Rs. One hundred Sixty two thousand, four hundred and forty, One Anna and three pice, and Costs of suit.

75. The Reasons which induced us last Year to desire the Supreme Court of Judicature to exempt certain Gentlemen who had undertaken to execute the duties of Commissioners of the Court of Request beyond the usual period of two Years, from serving on Juries were equal prevalent at the last We therefore repeated our Application for their Exemption which was immediately granted.

76. The Judges at the same time transmitted to us Presentments that had been made to them by the Grand Jury upon the state of the Jail; The perpetual Imprisonment of Insolvent Debtors, and an addition to the Salary of the Person who acted as the Grand Jury's Clerk.

77. The two first points the Judges were fully apprised and satisfied, had been provided for by the alterations which were carrying on at the Jail, and the orders we gave many Months ago for preparing the Drafts of a Bill to be submitted to Parliament for the Relief of Insolvent Debtors. The other point they brought before us, as a Recommendation from the Grand Jury, without proposing Acquiescence, but as the additional Salary was very Inconsiderable Vizt 80 Al. Rs. per month, we admitted it.

24th June	ginal Agreement in the Contract noticed to you by
10th June	the Northumberland we have been induced to
20th June	acquiesce in them.
29th June	

67. We have also entered into Engagements of Contract with the lowest proposer, according to a Public Advertize-  
 Consn. 15th April ment, for erecting some additional Buildings in the  
 20th April Compound, and upper Rooms upon the Offices to  
 24th April the Northward of the House that was purchased  
 1st May. some years ago, from the Reverend Mr. Johnson.  
 These Buildings have been deemed absolutely necessary for the conduct of the Business of your Account General's Office, and providing at the same time a proper Ware house for the Preservation of your Stationary, for which we have hitherto been compelled to hire an House at the Monthly Rent of 200 Sa. Rs. The whole expence of the Buildings will be 12,500 Sa. Rs.

68. By this Conveyance you will receive a Copy of a letter from  
 Consn. 1st April. your Attorney at Law, respecting the Decision of the Supreme Court of Judicature in the suit in Equity that had been instituted by the Hon'ble Company against Messrs. Barton Blaquiere and Chator Morat Cawn. Your Attorney as the Decree was final, against Mr. Blacquiere requesting our Instructions whether or not we should proceed to take the necessary steps for the immediate recovery of the Amount.

69 When this letter was under consideration, Two points were brought before us by Mr. Blacquiere in a Memorial, to which arguments of Weight were annexed to support it One was that he might be indulged with permission to pay the amount of the Decree by Instalments, without accumulating Interest, in the period of three years upon his House and property in Calcutta being Mortgaged for the Sum. The other was that the suspension from his office of Superintendant of the cloth Investment might be taken off.

70. This Application lay over till the 6th of July when the Governor General submitted to us another letter from Mr. Blaquiere with some Subsidiary papers tending to do away the stigma which his Character and conduct might sustain by the Decree by proving that it applied only to points in which his Judgement had erred not to any in which his Integrity had failed.

71. After fully considering these papers, and reverting to the repeated Official Testimonies which have been given of Mr. Blaquiere's useful Services as Superintendants of the Cloth Investment, we determined to relax from the full Exercise of that Power, which the Judgement of the Court had given to us to exact rigidly from him an immediate Compliance with it, and admitted his first request taxing the



78. We acquainted you in our letter by the Northumberland that the Draft of the bill abovementioned for the Relief of Insolvent Debtors had been prepared by the Advocate General who had furnished that part of the Duty which devolved to him in it early in January. We have been lately advised by one of the Judges, that the Blanks which remained are filled up and that the whole is complete, but the bill is so long, that it cannot be copied in time to be transmitted by this Dispatch. We therefore defer sending it, till the Departure of the first Ship of the Season.

### Company's Servants

79. A List attends you in the Packet of certain Offices held by your Servants whom we have precluded during their continuance in those Employments from having any concern in Commercial Transaction, or in the management of a Banking House, or House of Agency, from and after the 1st May 1789. From these however we have excepted the Sub Treasurer Mr. Meere who for particular Reasons is allowed to retain his concern in the Bengal Bank and Mr. Thomas Graham who is permitted to remain in the House of Agency with which he is connected till the 1st of May 1790.

80. Mr. H. C. Plowden was allowed to resign your Service, and embarked for Europe in the Northumberland. In the event of his making an application to be restored to his Rank on this Establishment, We beg leave to recommend a compliance with it.

81. Mr. Thomas Calvert, previous to his going to Europe submitted to us a Claim, on behalf of the estate of his Predecessor, the late Mr. Vansittart on Mr. Griffiths, formerly Salt Agent of the 24 Pergunnahs, and on his own part when Agent of the Hidjelle Division, for that reward which was held out to them in the Minutes of the Secret Department of Inspection on the 20th of December 1784 and 27th of June 1785 when the Commission upon the Nett Profits of Salt was reduced from 10 to 5 per Cent. Copies of the Papers will be transmitted in the Packet.

82. In the 37th Paragraph of our General Letter dated the 12th February 1788 we informed you of the Constitution of a Committee to adjust the Rice Contract Accounts of 1787/8 between the Hon'ble Company and Mr. George Tyler.

83. The Correspondence between Mr. Tyler, the Committee, and ourselves and the Resolutions which have occasionally been passed will appear upon our Proceedings noted in the Margin, the final Report of the Committee was submitted to us on the 27th of December 1788, but, more important and pressing Business intervening it was not fully considered until the 1st of April. A letter from Mr. Tyler, dated the 3rd of March, came under consideration at the same time.
- Consn. 41 Feby.  
6th Feby.  
29th Feby.  
30th April  
2nd May  
5th May  
22nd Augt.  
22nd Octr.  
29th Decr.  
1st April.

84. As a Material Difference existed in the balance of the two Accounts Current Vizt. that stated by the Commissioners and that delivered by Mr. Tyler, we found it necessary, for the better Explanation of the Resolutions to be Passed thereon, to state very fully the Principle upon which the Adjustment of Mr. Tyler's Account was to take place, as by the Strict application of that Principle only the existing Differences could be settled.

85. The Principle of the adjustment was this "That Mr. Tyler should be paid, according to the Terms of his Contract, for the Proportion of his Engagements fulfilled at Madras, and the Contract should be considered from that time Null and Void, and that Government should reimburse him the Actual expences which he had incurred towards fulfilling the remaining part of his Contract, so that from that period Mr. Tyler should neither be a loser nor a Gainer by the engagements he had entered into, for the performance of what yet remained to be completed.

86. Upon this principle our Resolutions were formed, and Mr. Tyler's Accounts have been adjusted.

87. The Proceedings of the Committee and our Minute and Resolutions are forwarded in the Packet. We beg leave to refer the whole of Mr. Tyler's Case to your Consideration, and, in so doing, we must request your particular attention to the concluding sentences in our Minute, which we think a fair and candid review of his conduct, and Justice to his exertions for the performance of his contract.

88. Mr. George Forster returned from his Embassy to Naugpore on the 25th of May. A Gratuity of 1000 Rupees per mensem for his Services while Resident there in pendant of his personal expences, and his Salary as Maratta Interpreter, have been paid to him.

89. In the 2nd Paragraph of our General Letter per Northumberland we apprized you of our Intention, after that Letter dated 10th March Dispatch, to make a New arrangement of the points of Business to be executed in the Different Departments under our Secretary, so as to conform to the Plan of Correspondence adopted in the letters from Your Hon'ble Court

90. This arrangement has been fully effected since the 1st of May and the Proceedings in this Department have been kept from that time under the separate Heads of Public Commercial, and Shipping Contingent Charges Fort Marlbro and Prince of Wales Island and the Establishment of Assistants is settled in a Mode that will secure the full Execution of the Duty under proper Checks, at an expence inferior to the past, as will appear by a Reference to our Consultations

91. The Proceedings formerly carried on in the Secret Department, under the Heads of Foreign, Military and Inspection, still continue in it, altho' they are entirely separated from subjects that are wholly of a Secret nature. The Establishments for this and the Revenue Department are regulated in the same mode as that for the Public.

92. The arrears of Business in each Department were provided for independent of the Establishment, and we are happy to add that the expence of bringing them up will probably fall considerably short of the estimate which was made large in order to provide for every possible expence, and to prevent further application for Assistance on the same account.

93. Our Secretarys Arrangement has been communicated, according to our promise to your Governments of Fort St. George and Bombay that they might consider it, and regulate their Correspondence in conformity to it, if they should think proper; from Fort St. George [we] are given to understand, that it perfectly coincides with the plan that has been observed by them for some Time past. From Bombay we are informed that the New Arrangement will be adopted.

#### Persons not in the Service

94. In the 121st Paragraph of our General letter per Northumberland we informed you of the Institution of a Committee to enquire into Mr. Lacam's Claims to indemnity from the Hon'ble Company. Mr. Lacam's indisposition retarded his enquiry for sometime and it is yet uncon-

cluded. The Voluminous papers presented by Mr. Consn. 17th April  
15th May. Lacam for the Establishment of his claim and the various Proceedings of Government for so many years back, which must be extracted from the records, and form a part of the Committees Report, exclusive of other Correspondence, requiring the Assistance of some Copyists, we have acquiesced in the Employment of such as the Committee required. We have added Lieutenant Caldwell to the Committee in the place of Mr. Evelyn, who had been deputed from the Revenue Department upon other Service.

95. Mr. Lacam's Bond for 1000 £ Sterling having fallen due payment of the amount was of course demanded of him by the Sub-Treasurer. Mr. Lacam stated in reply that in the Consn. 15th May Event of his claims being finally settled here, He would immediately take up his Bond, if they should be settled in England, the amount of it should be deducted, or It should be referred to England for Payment. His Claims being still unadjusted, the Demand upon him has been suspended.

96. A Petition and Memorial from Mr. Lewis Belart, formerly a Lieutenant in your Service, is sent to you with other subsidiary papers belonging to it in the present Dispatch. The Circumstances stated in his Memorial, his former situation and services and his present Distresses all of which appear to be fully established, have induced us to allow him a Pension of Sa Rs. 40 per Mensen until your pleasure shall be known.

97. We are greatly concerned to inform you that we have been compelled from Motives of Humanity to the Natives of these Provinces, and Considerations of no less importance to the Character of a British Government, to institute a Criminal prosecution in the Supreme Court of Judicature against Captain P. Horrebow the Commander of a Ship in the Country Trade of this Port, for procuring and carrying from hence in the Month of January last a Number of Natives, whom under Denomination of slaves He sold on the Island of Ceylon.

99. Mr. Horrebow's Trial took place on the 27th Ultimo. He was found Guilty and sentenced to be imprisoned for three Months, to pay as fine of 500 Rupees to the King, and to find a Security for his good Behaviour for three Years, himself in the Sum of 5,000 Rupees, and two Securities in 2,500 Rupees each.

100. The Practice of exporting Natives from these Provinces to be slaves in other parts of India, or elsewhere having subsisted, as we understand, for some Years notwithstanding Prohibiting Regulations of Government, we had, previous to the charge against Mr. Horrebows, seriously considered the Subject, with a Determination to prevent the continuation of such an abuse by every means in our Power. We have lately caused Proclamation, expressing our Orders and Intention to be made and published, in the English and Country Languages against this inhuman Practice; a Copy of it accompanies this letter. Further Regulations against slaving in the internal parts of Bengal and Bahar have been devised with the consent and approbation of the Judges of the Supreme Court, but we have thought it necessary, previous to adopting them to transmit a Copy thereof to Mohamed Ruza Cawn the Naib Nazim, that we may receive his Opinion upon a point of much importance whether they militate, in any Respect, with the Laws and Licenced Usages of the Country.

101. We have subscribed for and transmit to you by the Swallow, fifty Copies of a compilation lately published in Bengal, under the Title of Asiatic Researches, or Transactions of the Society instituted here for Enquiring into the History and Antiquities, the Arts, Sciences, and Literature of Asia.

#### Natives

102. In the 53d. Paragraph of our letter, dated the 22nd of Decem-  
 Consn. 4th March ber 1788, we apprized you, that we had been obliged  
 16th March to try various means of stopping an abuse, that had  
 Consn. 13th March become exceedingly prevalent among the Native  
 27th March Shroffs of demanding an exorbitant Batta on the  
 1st April Exchange of Silver for Gold.  
 6th May.

103. Lenient measures not having effected the end desired, we have been compelled, in some Instances when Proofs have been clearly established, to resort to stricter expedient and to expel the guilty from the Companys Protection. The erect, [*sic*], the' greatly prevented, is not however, yet completely suppressed, and we are concerned to add that the Scarcity of Silver has long been seriously complained of still continues to a considerable degree.

104. We have lately been a good Deal embarrassed by repeated Complaints from the Natives against the Tax, that was established by the Bye Laws in the year 1780 for cleaning and repairing the Public streets &Ca. in this extensive City. It was alledged, as the Ground of complaint that the Tax had been greatly enhanced. Upon Enquiry, however it appears to be established Instances (the Natural Consequence of enquiry and Equalization) the stipulations in the Bye Laws have not been exceeded. The general Belief of this Fact among the Natives is not likely to be speedily admitted, but to impress it on their minds, and to give them a clear Idea of the Principles upon which the Bye Law was framed, and the mode in which the assets are disbursed, We have given Directions for a Translation to be made of it into Bengalee and desired that the Accounts of Disbursements may be regularly published.

Consn. 8th April  
20th April  
24th April  
23rd May  
29th May.

105. The Report from the Committee whom we had appointed to enquire into the complaints that had been preferred by the Native Inhabitants of Calcutta against the Superintendents of Police was completed and Submitted to us with their Proceedings at large on the 29th of May we have not yet passed any Decision upon the conduct of the Superintendants, nor have we had time to take into consideration the Plan which the Committee have Suggested to improve the state of the Police.

#### Miscellanea

106. We forward to you by this Conveyance a Copy of a letter from Lieutenant Colonel Kyd, containing his Report upon the articles which you consigned by the General Goddard and Ross for the the Botanical Garden. His application for a Vine dresser from Madeira or the Cape of Good Hope and for some Hips [sic] of the different Vines cultivated in the latter Place, also an amount of the Plants of the Mexican Nopal received by the Swallow, with some suggestions as to the Mode of sending out vegetable Article in future, are submitted to you with a Request that you will do us the favour to attend to them

Consn. 20th July

108. Such further Testimonies from the Natives respecting Mr. Hastings as have been received since the Departure of the Northumberland are sent with Translations in the Swallow's Packet.

109. We transmit by this Dispatch letters that have been received from the Nabob Viziers and the Nabob Mobareckul Dowlah and his eldest son, addressed to the King, to congratulate his Majesty on his late happy recovery, which you will be pleased to present to the King in the manner that may appear to you most proper. Those letters were accompanied with pecuniary presents to be sent to England for different purposes according to the Customs of this Country but we have made a civil apology for declining to receive those presents, and have returned them both to his Excellency the Viziers, and to the Nabob Mobareck ul Dowlah.

110. We cannot avoid mentioning that among the private Instances of Generosity and Benevolence which were exhibited on the day that was fixed for celebrating his Majesty's Recovery, Coja Cachuck Ara-keel an Armenian deserves particular notice. He was not contented with testifying as others did his pleasure at the Event by Illuminations and other public demonstration, of joy. But he also took that occasion to do an act of Charity by paying the Debts of no less than one hundred and thirty unfortunate People, Prisoners for Debt in the jail of the Court of Request.

The State of our Treasury is as follows.

Ready Money

Gold Mohurs	1,29,501	2,07,201-0-0	2,40,353-2-7
Siccas		1,373-5-0	1,593-0-8
Copper Coin	72,640	2,270-0-0	2,633-3-2
			<hr/> 2,44,579-6-5

Bills receivable		5,371-9-9	6,231-1-1
	Current	Rupces	<hr/> 2,50,810-7-6
Balance Account Deposits			1,31,402-8-1
Ditto Accompt. Genl. to Mayors Court			1,16,918-3-3
Ditto of the Old Bonded debt on which the			
Interest has ceased by Public Advertizement			36,102-0-2
Ditto of the new Bonded Debt at 8 Pr. Cent			1,13,85,869-12-2
Ditto.....Ditto...Ditto Account			
Madras Military Arrears			39,47,360-2-0
Ditto.....Ditto....Ditto Account			
Bombay..Do			<hr/> 12,71,918-4-7
			<hr/> 1,73,89,570-15-3

Fort William  
The 10th August 1789  
[Per Swallow]

We have the Honor to be,  
Hon'ble Sirs,  
Your most faithful Humble Servants.

## LETTER DATED 5 NOVEMBER 1789

*Macpherson's salary—Kyd's efforts for tea cultivation—departments of correspondence—Chinese plants for the Botanical Garden—Tyler—Nawab of Arcot—Bombay bonds—dak service with Western India established—Fort Marlboro—Pegu—Canton—dock at Diamond Harbour—deputation of Marsh to Sylhet postponed.*

TO the Court of Directors,

Hon'ble Sirs,

1. We have the honor to forward to you by the Rose which is now under Dispatch our Proceedings in this Department for the Months of August, September, and October with their Index and a Copy of our advices by the Swallow.

2. We have to acknowledge the arrival of your Letters of the 8th, 22nd and 29th\* April, in Original and Duplicate, Consn. 23d Sept. by the Earl of Oxford and Oxford and Haughton. Our Answers to the several Paragraphs and Observations on the Subjects of them are now laid before you. They will be followed by a Communication of the material Subjects exhibited on our Proceedings since the Departure of our last Packet.

## General Letter 8th April 1789

3. Para 1st Date of your last advice 2d Do. of Do. received. Require no Answer.

4. Para 3rd Appointment of Mr. Speke to the Supreme Council. Upon receipt of this letter on the 16th of September, Mr. Speke was advised of the Appointment conferred upon him by your Hon'ble Court, and requested to attend Council on the next Morning when the usual Oaths were admitted to Him and He took his Seat as 3d. member of this Government.

\*28th as given in the original volume is obviously a clerical error.



5. 4th Mr. Smith 9th Mr. Parling The Names of these Gentlemen  
 10th Mr. Chapman have been inserted in the List  
 87th Mr. J. Scott of your Civil Servants on this  
 Return to their ranks to Establishment according to their  
 this Establishment. Proper Rank.

6. *Paras (5, 6, 7) Mr. Butough, a* These Paragraphs do not require  
 Barrister allowed to any Answer.  
 come out-Names of the  
 Select Commee. and  
 Super Cargoes at Canton.

7. Respecting Sir John Macphersons Salary and the In consequence of the Resolution  
 Donation to them. 8 communicated to us in this  
 Paragraph, Viz. that the 50000  
 Rupees Agreed to be presented  
 to Sir John Macpherson by your  
 Hon'ble Court as advised in  
 your Dispatches of the 28th  
 March 1788, and to be paid to  
 his Attornies in Bengal, we of  
 course adverted to the Orders  
 of that Date, of which the  
 following is a Copy.

"We have permitted Sir John Macpherson Bart. to return to his Station in India, and as *his Salary ceased from the time of his leaving Bengal* with the Permission of the Supreme Council, and being desirous of testifying our approbation of his Conduct, we have resolved that, upon his arrival in Bengal He be presented with the Sum of Fifty Thousand Current Rupees as a Compensation for his Loss of time, and in order to defray his charges and Expences to the Cape for the Restoration of his Health".

8. The principal Foundation of this Order being expressed to be that Sir John Macpherson's Salary ceased from the time of his leaving Bengal we had called for a report to what amount and for what Number of Months his Salary as a Member of the Supreme Council had been paid to his Attornies, after He left this Country. The Statement, consequently Given in by the Civil Pay Master, proved that his Attornies had actually received Current Rupees 7,563-11-4 in Cash and Certificates, exceeding the Donation which you had authorized to be made to him.

9. This circumstance was mentioned in our General letter from the Public Department by the William Pitt, which not having been replied to the Ground upon which the Sum of 50,000 Rupees was first Agreed to be given to Sir John Macpherson seemed to continue

the same upon this Principle nothing remained to be advanced to his Attornies and it only rested with your Hon'ble Court to determine whether He should refund the amount issued to them in Cash and Certificates Vizt. Ct. Rs. 7563-11-4 beyond the 50,000 Agreed to be presented to him in this Country upon an Idea that his Salary ceased when he left it.

10. Shortly after we had passed our Resolutions to the forgoing Effect Sir John Macpherson's Attornies produced Authority from him to receive and consequently desired, the Sum conceded to him by your Hon'ble Court but we declined to comply with their application.

11. However on the 30th Ultimo a further representation from the Attornies of Sir John Macpherson was submitted to us, and brought your Orders before us in a Light different from that in which we had before seen them and after some Deliberation we could not but suppose it to be your Intention that the Sum of Current Rs. 50,000 should be presented to him in Bengal over and above his Salary; upon this view of the Subject, we have authorized the Money to be paid.

12. Paras 11, 12, 13 Names of free Require no Answer.  
Mariners.

13. Para 14 Sir Joseph Bank's Observations respecting the Botanical Garden. A Copy of this Paragraph with Sir Joseph Bank's Observations referred to in it were forwarded to Lieutenant Colonel Kyd with our Instructions to procure the best Intelligence in his Power with respect to the Culture of Tea in the Rohil Chund Country, and in the Dominions of the Lama of Thibet. Lieutenant Colonel Kyd has since submitted to us some Observations upon the Subject, which are forwarded a Number in the Packet. His Intimation of Mr. Forsters offer to proceed to Bootan, for the purposes mentioned, lies for consideration.

14. Paras 15 & 21 Do not require any Answer.

15. 22 Wait our Observations upon Mr. Ives' Report to form any Judgement upon We have only to inform you, in reply to this Paragraph, that a variety of Business of more

the Assistance to be afforded to Mabarec ul Dowlah.

Importance to your Interest has hitherto prevented us from giving our attention to the Nizamut Arrangements.

16. Para 23, 24

Require no Answer.

17. Para 25 Our Correspondence with them to confirm to the arrangement prescribed.

The Directions in this Paragraph will be fully attended to by our Secretary. You will observe that our Advices by the Swallow are Separate upon each Branch of Correspondence with your Hon'ble Court.

18. 26 to 56

Require no Answer.

19. 57 Complies with the Prayer of Sir Charles Blunt's Memorial.

This Order has been attended to.

20. 58 to 71

Require no Answer.

21. Para 72, 73 Respecting the arrangement of Proceedings and Correspondence.

These Directions will be observed by our Secretary. Our Advices by the Swallow will convince you that the Intentions expressed in this Respect in our former Letters have been carried into Execution in a great measure.

22. Para 74, 75

Require no Answer.

23. 76 Allowance conceded to the Accountant General.

Your Sentiments of our Accountant General, and the allowance conceded to him in this Paragraph, have been made known to Mr. Larkins. Our Proceedings noted in the Margin will exhibit the amount that he is entitled to receive in pursuance of your Orders: and we have Given Direction for paying it.

24. Para 77 Repeat your prohibition of any Emoluments being derived from Office Establishment.

These Orders will be duly attended to.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 25. 78 to 88   | Require no answer.   |
| 26. Para 89 Notifying a Bill of Exchange drawn.  | The Bill of Exchange advised in this Paragraph, has been duly honored.   |
| 27. 90 Subjects for Separate Proceedings Desire to be addressed Separately in the Public, political, Military, Revenue, and Commercial, Departments, independent of the address to the Secret Committee. | Our Proceedings upon these Subjects will be kept Separately after the beginning of the year in exact conformity, with your Instructions. |

General Letter 22d. April 1789

28. Para 1, 2 Giving Directions for the Examination of Witnesses, in consequence on a Suit instituted for a share of the Chinsurah Capture.
29. Para 4.5 Respecting a Claim made by Mr. Pigop for money deposited on account of a Cause in the Mayor's Court, Walter against Verelst.

31. Para 6 Mr. C. Fenwick ap- This Order will be duly attended  
pointed to succeed Mr. to.  
Price as Naval Store-  
keeper.
32. Para 7, 8 Names of the Com- Require no Answer.  
mittee of Secrecy, and  
Secret Committee.

## General Letter 29th April 1789

33. Paras 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Directions As this Subject has been always  
respecting the Decision discussed with Revenue matters  
upon the appeal in the we have transferred the con-  
Patna cause. sideration of the orders you  
have now given to the Revenue  
Department.
34. Para 6 Regulations respecting The Resolutions contained in  
the Appointment of Civil this Paragraph do not require  
and Military Servants & any Orders to be Passed upon  
ca. them at present.

## Canton

35. Since the Date of our Advices P. Swallow, we have not received any Letters from your Supra Cargoes. The only Subject that has occurred of Communication to them, will be found, on a reference to our Proceedings noted in the Margin, to have originated with Lieutenant Colonel Kyd, at whose Suggestion we have been induced to request that your Supra Cargoes would make Advances, not exceeding twelve or fifteen Hundred Dollars, to Major Yoan, a French Gentleman at Canton who had tendered his Services to procure some Plants and Pareties [Rarities] of Vegetable Production in China and had shew himself deserving of this Trust from the voluntary Contributions which he had made from the Isle of France, and the Intelligence Colonel Kyd had Obtained from him on the Subject of Botanical Pursuits

## Fort St. George

36. You will be advised, from the Revenue Department, of the Grounds upon which we were induced to take off the Embargo on Grain on the 7th of October. On the same day we published an advertisement inviting Proposals to deliver at Fort St. George between the 1st December 1789 and 1st March 1790, the Quantity of Rice applied for by that Government in their Letter of the 20th April and 18th of July last and a further quantity at Tellicherry to relieve the Distresses of that Residency as set forth in Letter to Fort St. George.

37. The several Proposals, Six for the Supply at Tellicherry and three at Fort St. George, were Opened in Council on the 28th of October and on the 30th we entered into Engagements with Mr.

George Tyler for the Delivery of 10,000 Bags at Tellicherry at Sa. Rs. 5.12. P. Bag, and for the Delivery of 30,000 Bags at Fort St. George at Sa. Rs. 4.6. P. Bag. You will Observe upon our Proceedings that altho' the Proposals of this Gentleman were not quite the lowest as to apparent Price, The difference is more than compensated by the Superiority of his musters, and the Securities are deemed fully responsible.

38. With a letter from the Secretary at Fort St. George dated the 12th August 1789 we received the Probable Estimates of Receipts and Disbursements of that Presidency in the General and Revenue Department from the 1st of May 1789 to the 30th of April 1790. These Accounts, it seems, were intended to have made part of your Dispatches from that Government by the Swallow but arriving too late were unavoidably kept till the present Opportunity.

39. We are happy to inform you, that our Mint Master after an attentive Examination of the Accounts of the Coinage of the Gold consigned to Fort St. George by your Ships *Manship*, *Phoenix*, and *Dublin*, has reported to us that the Remittance has turned out fully what was expected, a Circumstance that, in all probability, will induce us to repeat the same Mode of furnishing a part of the Supplies that will be required by that Presidency this year.

40. We have the honor to forward to you by this Conveyance and beg leave to recommend to your Perusal a Copy of a Letter written by the Governor General in answer to one from his Highness the Nabab of Arcot, and received by the Hands of Lieutenant Cockrane. His Lordship you will observe has been pleased, in this Letter to decline any Interference in Transactions which have passed between the Government of Fort St. George and his Highness, and to intimate his Sentiments in regard to the Confidence which should be placed by his Highness in the Gentlemen on the Coast, who are entrusted with the management of your Affairs and whose Character and Reputation are concerned, in Preference to Individuals, generally actuated by motives of private advantage.

#### Bombay

41. In our advices by the Swallow we furnished you with a narrative of the material points in our Correspondence with your Bombay Government, respecting Frauds that had been committed in the Transfer of the Amount of a Bombay Bond in the name of Catharine Gage, altho' a part of it had been actually discharged.

42. An answer to our Directions upon this Subject of the 6th May, was received from Bombay on the 4th of September. It appears therein that the Transfer master, who had inadvertently and invariably

31. Para 6 Mr. C. Fenwick appointed to succeed Mr. Price as Naval Store-keeper. This Order will be duly attended to.
32. Para 7, 8 Names of the Committee of Secrecy, and Secret Committee. Require no Answer.

General Letter 29th April 1789

33. Paras 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Directions respecting the Decision upon the appeal in the Patna cause. As this Subject has been always discussed with Revenue matters we have transferred the consideration of the orders you have now given to the Revenue Department.
34. Para 6 Regulations respecting the Appointment of Civil and Military Servants & ca. The Resolutions contained in this Paragraph do not require any Orders to be Passed upon them at present.

Canton

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37. The several Proposals, Six for the Supply at Telicherry and three at Fort St. George, were Opened in Council on the 28th of October and on the 30th we entered into Engagements with Mr.

of the Peshwah and his Ministers, upon his Communication, the Satisfactory Intelligence of his Majesty's recovery, His Negotiation with the Durbar upon Application from your Government of Bombay to demand Restitution of some Boats that had been sequestered by the Aumildar of Oopar, and the Death of Chimnaje Bhoosla at Naugpore.

48. After recapitulating the Substance of his Conversations on the Subject of Presents, Mr. Malet observed to us that the Prosecution of this Intercourse may be converted to the Purpose of an Esteem for the arts and Sciences of England; and as the Minister had repeated Occasions desired him to give the Young Peshwa an Idea of our Geographical System He suggested to us the propriety of Commissioning, or allowing him to commission from England to Bombay, an Orrery a Pair of Globes, a Sett of Instruments, and a Set of the largest and best Coloured Maps procurable.

49. Admitting Mr. Malet's Suggestion, we request you will order the Articles before mentioned to be forwarded to Bombay in one of your Ships, consigned to that Presidency, and that you will particularly caution the Persons who may be employed in procuring them to pay great attention to their Durability and the real Goodness of the Workmanship, especially the Orrery and Globes, as none but those of the Strongest and best materials will stand in this Country; and the Smallest Disorder will render them totally useless, where no Damage can possibly be repaired.

#### Fort Marlbro'

50. By this Conveyance you will receive a Dispatch for your Hon'ble Court from the Deputy Governor and Council at Fort Marlbro'. It arrived here a few days ago by the Snow Euphrates. By the same Conveyance we have also received some Dispatches from Fort Marlbro' which we have recorded in our Proceedings of the 30th October. Our Answers to any points of Importance in these Dispatches will be noticed to you by a future Opportunity, when we have been enabled to give them consideration.

51. The Chesterfield had not reached Fort Marlbro' when the Euphrates sailed from that Residency. We are hopeful, however, that as the Voyage of this Vessel was uncommonly tedious, We shall soon have it in our Power to acquaint you that the Chesterfield has Accomplished the object of our wishes in bringing back the Detachment to Bengal without any Difficulty.

#### Prince of Wales Island

52. Our Proceedings, noted in the Margin, contain the Letters that we have received from, and written to, the Superintendent of



allowed the practice, which in this Instance and perhaps in others may be of Serious consequence was dead, that there [being] no probability of Obtaining any Reparation from his Executors the only means left were to revert to the principal, if to be found [sic] and for this purpose, as she is supposed to be in England they proposed to furnish you with the necessary materials.

43. The same letter contains a repetition of their apprehensive [sic] that many Bombay Bonds are still existing the Holders of which have no Credit in their Books, and an earnest Solicitation that were [we] should devise some Expedient to avert the mischief to be expected from an invariable Discharge of Bombay Bonds without reference to them, upon the Principle on which we admit the Bond above alluded to.

44. On this Subject we thought proper to make a further reference to your Advocate General. His Opinion, and our Instructions to Bombay in consequence make a number in the present Dispatch.

45. It has been suggested by your Government of Bombay, with a view to Accelerating the Transfer of their Bond Debt either to Europe or Bengal, to limit the Period for closing the Subscription, and in support of this measure they have intimated to us that many of their Creditors, who have large Sums in their Treasury, would then be inclined to embrace the Proposals; Whereas, while the Subscription is kept open to an indefinite time, the larger Interest induces them to continue their property at Bombay, we have inclined giving our Consent to their Proposition for the present.

46. In the Continuation of our advices respecting the Establishment of a Communication by Dawk between this Presidency and the West of India we are happy to inform you that all the obstacles are removed that the Dawk for the present is dispatched once in every Week and will continue to be so, conveying private Letters Postage Free, until Captain Kennaway and Mr. Malet have finally settled the Detail of Arrangement, which may encrease the number of Dispatches every week, and adjust the Amount, if any to be collected upon private Letters.

Poonah

47. Our Correspondence with Mr. Malet, as exhibited in our Proceedings in this Department, will bring before you the Substance of his Conversation with the Poona Ministers, respecting Article the Manufacture of Decan forwarded as Present to the Governor General arrival the mode of Reception at Poona, of Mirza Jumah, the Son of the late Mirza Jehander Shah. The Congratulatory Compliments

56. The Paper with the Company's water Mark upon it, which was consigned to this Government in 1785 for the purpose of Bills of Exchange, being nearly expended, we request that a further Supply may be forwarded by an early Opportunity. We beg leave to apprise you, that in the event of the Quantity remaining in Store not proving Sufficient for due exigence before a Supply can be received, we have authorized our Account [*sic*] to make use of such other Paper in the Company's Stores as he may deem proper for the purpose.

57. Our Proceedings noted in the Margin will bring before you two Petitions that were presented to the Governor General by some Natives of Pegue, in consequence of an attachment that had been issued by the Supreme Court of Judicature against the Vessel under their Command upon the affidavit of Mr. Gabriel Vrignon who had formerly lent some money at Respondentia upon the Snow and had thereby relieved the Proprietors from Distress.

58. As the Process of the Court was not to be Stopped, and Motives of Humanity as well as political Considerations united to influence us in relieving the Petitioners from the Embarrassments into which they had fallen unacquainted with our Laws, and destitute of Assistance, we thought it most advisable to compromise the Claim of Mr. Vrignon by discharging the Principal of his Bond, and the Costs that had been incurred, amounting to Sa Rs 3,000 in Toto and releave to [release the] Vessel, on the Departure of which for Pegu the Governor General wrote a Letter to the King, explanatory of these Circumstances, as well do of and [as well as of an] old Demand incurred upon a Similar Occasion, at Fort St. George some years ago not doubting that his Majesty would give the necessary Direction for the whole to be repaid.

59. We forward to you by this Conveyance a Copy of the Contract entered into with Mr. Hugh Darley for the Works carrying on at the Jail. Our former Advices will have acquainted you with the particular points in which the original Intention, with respect deviated, and making in fact a very inconsiderable Difference in the Expence.

#### Company's Servants

60. A List of the Appointments that have taken place in this Department, since the Date of our last Advices makes a Number in the Present Dispatch.

61. Mr. Patrick Heatly of Your Civil Establishment has obtained Permission to resign your Service, and proceed to Europe in one of the Ships of this Season as the recovery of Health is Mr. Heatly's sole Inducement for quitting your Service, He has requested that the Circumstance may be pointed out to you in the hopes of its insuring

Prince of Wales Island since the Departure of the Swallow. These you will observe, comprehend some matters of internal arrangement, with respect to charge incurred on account of the Military Stationed there and our opinions, and Directions for Captain Light's Conduct towards the King of Queda, and the different Princes to the Eastward, whose Quarrels and Disturbances amongst themselves and with the Dutch have been particularly brought before us in his Correspondence.

### Accounts & Audits

53. A Letter from our Accountant General with Subsidiary Papers, bearing the Date 7th of August, 1789 having been received too late for admission among the Papers of that dispatch or for notice in our General Advices were forwarded under address to your Secretary. That Letter, containing the Accountant General's remarks made with our Permission upon Suggestions in a letter from Colonel Murray, dated the 7th and recorded in our Political Proceedings of the 12th January 1789 and concluding with a request that your Hon<sup>ble</sup> Court would pass your opinion upon the Regulation proposed by him and adopted by this Government on the 20th and 29th December 1785, We beg leave to refer it to your particular consideration.

54. At the recommendation of the Accountant General, we have been induced to allow Small Gratuities to some of the Native Assistants in his Office, for there Extra Attendance and Exertions which enabled him to complete the General Books of 1787/8 previous to the Departure of the William Pitt, and those of 1788/9 previous to the dispatch of the Swallow. The Proportions allotted to each Assistant and Motives, which operated with your Accountant Genl. in proposing these Gratuities, will appear on a Reference to his Letter, which is recorded on the 26th August.

55. The Exertions of the Accountant General, in effecting the Object of your wishes by completing the General Books, as mentioned in the preceding Paragraph, considerably impaired his health and he has in consequence thereof obtained our Permission to absent himself from Calcutta in hopes that the drier Atmosphere of the Northern Provinces may contribute to the removal of his Disorder, We are much concerned at the Occasion which deprives us of Mr. Larkins's Service but we have no doubt that, during his absence, He will, as far as his health will allow, endeavour to accomplish his Plan for some alterations and Improvements in the formation of your Accounts which he is of Opinion are both necessary and practicable. Your Bonds instead of bearing Discount, are now negotiated at par and some of your Certificates have been sold at a Premium of three Annas per cent.

68. Mr. George Forster, having represented to us that, on his arrival in Calcutta, He discovered that the Copy of the 1st part of his Route, from which the Transcript was taken that was sent to you by the Northumberland, had been filled with errors, owing to the Negligence of a Copy and having prepared a Correct Copy for transmission to your Hon'ble Court, we shall forward it by one of the Ships this year, as soon as a Duplicate can be prepared.

69. The Disturbances in the Sylhet Frontier having, in a great Degree, impeded Mr. B. Marsh in his Endeavors to prosecute the Object of his Deputation to that District under the Instructions of Lieutenant Coll. Kyd. we thought is [it] advisable some time ago, to desire that He postpone his researches in that Quarter and proceed to the Execution of the other objects of his Mission in the District of Tipperah and Chittagong. Lieutenant Colonel Kyd has since submitted to us some Letters received from Mr. Marsh conveying a Detail of the several vegetable articles that have come under his notice with some observations upon them which we beg leave to refer to your perusal.

70. An Extract of a letter from Lieutenant Coll. Kyd. containing his report upon the present state of the Plants received from Europe this Season by your Ships General Goddard and Melville Castle makes a Number in the Packet.

71. The following is the present State of our Treasury.

Ready Money.

Gold Mohurs	28,520-1-0	4,56,321-0-0	5,29,332-5-9
Siccās		6,0916-12-2	70,663-7-0
Copper Coin.	23,040-0-0	720-0-0	835-3-2

Bills Receivable	4,97,114-4-6	6,00,830-15-11
		5,76,652-9-1

Current Rupees	11,77,483-9-0
Balance Account Deposits	1,89,546-9-2

Ditto Accomptant Genl. to the Mayors Court	}	1,16,918-3-3
Ditto of the Old Bonded Debt on which the Interest has ceased by public Advertise.		36,102-0-2
New Bonded Debt at 8 P. Ct.		1,16,88,551-15-5

Ditto Ditto Acct. Madras Military Arrears	39,47,508-14-10
Do Do Do. Bombay Do	18,32,247-8-3

1,78,10,875-3-1

Fort William  
5th November 1789  
[Per Ross]

We have the honor to be,  
Ho'nble Sirs,  
Your most faithful Humble Servants.

his return to his Rank whenever his Health shall be restored, and we beg leave to recommend that the Permission may be allowed.

### Miscellaneous

62. Soon after the Departure of the Swallow Mr. Cockrane, (whose letters to the Government to Fort St. George relative to the Importation of a quantity of Coal Tar were noticed in our Commercial General Letter of the 10th August) Submitted to us Sundry Papers on the Subject of Coal Tar & ca, and in a letter setting forth the difference [sic] advantages that would result from the use of it in various public Works in this Country, tendered his Services in any way that we might think proper to employ him.

63. Considerations of Justice to an Invention which had been so much commended upon the Trials made of it in Europe, have induced us, for the present, to authorize Experiments to be made with the Coal Tar and for the purpose of ascertaining its efficacy in this Country preparatory to the use of it in the Arsenal, and public Buildings, if the Efficacy should be established in any Degree that renders it Superior to the existing modes of preserving your Property and if the price of it should ultimately be found Sufficiently reasonable to Warrant the Expedient upon principles of Oeconomy.

64. The experiments are now making by your Master Attendant upon some of the Buoys in the River, and by the Chief Engineer upon some of the Guns and Gun Carriages, and partial Works carrying on in Fort William.

65. We forwarded to you by the Northumberland (No. 81.82.83.) Copies of all the Papers and Correspondence that had passed relative to the Service of new and Diamond Harbour, and the Charts protracted by Lieutt. Caldwell. Second Copies of those Charts are now sent and we must refer you to our Proceedings noted in the margin as containing all the Letters and Materials laid before us by Lieutt. Caldwell with his Plans sections and Estimates for constructing Docks at Diamond Harbour. These Plans you will observe are erroneously termed by the Chief Engineer and Lieutenant Caldwell as "proposed", Such an Idea, we beg leave to remark, was never entertained by this Government, nor indeed was any thing intended beyond the preparation of the Plans.

66. Lieutenant Caldwell having explained to us that he has discovered some mistake, tho' of little consequence in his first report respecting new Harbour, His Letter upon this Subject is made a Number in the present Dispatch.

67. At the earnest solicitation of Mr. Lacam, whose distressed situation has been repeatedly mentioned to us, we have been induced to make him an advance of Sa. Rs. 5,000 on Account.

Carpenters of the Kings Ships to the builders at Bombay, in fixing upon a proper plan for its construction. But we did not think ourselves warranted whilst his Majesty's Squadron continued in India, in authorizing any expence that might be saved by the aid to be expected from that Squadron, and therefore delivered our opinion against the construction of a Second Frigate for the Bombay Establishment.

7. The letter from that Government, already adverted to, will bring before you some remarks which they have made on a remittance of 6 Lacks of Rupees negotiated by the Resident at Benares for their Supply in the Month of August, at a rate of exchange, which being higher than that settled with Nuggendass, who was under agreement to furnish them with 2½ Lacks monthly, he hesitated to proceed with his engagement, as well for this reason, as because, apparently at least, *he understood his Agreement to exclude any channel of remittance not made by his Agency.*

8. Our answer upon this subject to the Complaints of your Governor in Council at Bombay will be forwarded a number in the Packet, and we shall here only repeat that the remittance  
 Consn. 2d Decr. was authorised by us, and that Mr. Duncans motives for proposing to make it, were in the highest degree commendable. The representation of Nuggendass has been since declared by his principal at Benares to be entirely unauthorized.

#### Fort Marlbro'

9. We are happy to inform you that the Chesterfield imported here from Fort Marlbro' on the 30th. of November with the Detachment of Volunteer Sepoys sent from hence by the Lord  
 Consn. 2d Decr. Macartney in February last, excepting a Subaddar [and?] thirty six Sepoys, who readily offered their Service to remain at Bencoolen a few Months longer, in consequence of Sudden alarm at Saloomah, which rendered it necessary to detach a small party to the assistance of the resident.

10. The advices from Fort Marlbro' by the Chesterfield, mention the Bengal Detachment in terms of much praise and Mr. Crisp, in his letter to the Governor General, expresses his expectation that the disturbances at Saloomah will speedily be terminated. He also observes that, the Crop of Pepper is likely to be very favourable this Season. The other points in their Correspondence are merely answers to our former Instructions, and do not require particular Notice—On address from them to your Hon'ble Court makes a number in the Packet.

11 Your Ship Earl of Oxford will be dispatched to Fort St. George, and Fort Marlbro' about the latter end of the present months.

## LETTER DATED 7 DECEMBER 1789

*Canton—Fort Marlbro'—interest on bonds—famine relief.*

TO the Hon'ble Court of Directors &amp; ca.

Hon'ble Sirs,

1. We have the honor to forward to you by the *Busbridge* a continuation of our Proceedings in the Department for the months of November with an Indice, and a Duplicate of our advices by the *Rose*.

## Canton

2. By this Conveyance we transmit to you a Copy of an advertisement which we have published, inviting offers for a Consn. 25th Novr. remittance to the Supra Cargoes in the next Season to the extent of Ct. Rs. 200,000 at the exchange of 40 Spanish Dollers for 100 Rupees.

## Fort St. George

3. In the 40th. Paragraph of our letter by the *Rose* we referred to your perusal to Copy of a letter which the Governor General had written to his Highness the Nabob Walau Jau. in Consn. 11th Novr. answer to a representation on the state of his Affairs. The letter and papers adverted to by his Lordship are entered at full length in our Proceedings of the 11th November when two other letters from his Highness were also recorded, One on the same subject, dated the 5th September, the other in answer to Lord Cornwallis letter of the 9th of the same Month.

## Bombay

4. Our last advices from the Government of Bombay are recorded in our Proceedings of the 18th November.

5 You will observe therein proposal made to us for the construction of two Frigate[s], in order to Augment the Marine Force at Bombay, which is reported to have been much reduced within the last few years, but more immediately by the loss of the Bombay Grab.

6. We have consented to one Vessels [sic] being built to replace the Bombay Grab and we have requested the Commanding Officer of his Majestys Squadron to give the assistance of the advice of the

Interests of the Company than great abilities which have amply justified his appointment to a principal concern in the administration of Your Affairs.

16. A Petition from Mr. Charles Purling to Your Hon'ble Court makes also a number in the Packet, with a Copy of a letter he addressed to us, and Copy of the Resolutions which we thought it our Duty to record upon the subject of it.

17. Mr. Richard Chichely Plowden, a Factor on this Establishment being to proceed with his Family to Europe in the Busbridge hereas [has] resigned your Service. We beg leave to recommend to your Hon'ble Court that he may be allowed to return to Bengal without prejudice to his Rank, on his application to You for that permission.

18. A Copy of a letter from our Mint Master, with the Samples of Coins transmitted to him from different parts of this Country, and a Table exhibiting in one view, the Assay quantity of pure Silver, and all in each, are forwarded to you in the Packet of the Busbridge.

19. The Chief Engineer having suggested to us an expedient for securing the Bridge over Tollys Nullah, now in a very dangerous State at an expence of Sa. Rs. 7,500 and the Attornies of  
 Consn. 13th Novr. Mr. Tolley having entered into an engagement to indemnify the Company against claims that might be made, if any accident should happen to the Bridge while under repair, we have authorized him to proceed upon this work, as it will be the means of restoring a useful Communication to the Public.

20. A letter from Mr. Thomas Graham which makes a number in the present Packet, will furnish You with a full  
 Consn. 13th Novr. explanation of the causes that operated with us in  
 21st Novr. allowing a Disbursement of Sa. Rs. 5,000 to be made from your Treasury for the relief, and maintenance of a number of miserable objects Inhabitants of the interior parts of the 24th. Paragraphs [Pargunnahs] and Burdwan and some emigrants from Cattac, during the latter months of the Scarcity of Grain. This charity is now discontinued on the appearance of plenty throughout the whole Country.

21. At the desire of Lieutt. Colonel Kyd, we forwarded to you a transcript of the original report from Mr. Bogle, who was sent by this Government into Thibet & Booten, in the year 1775/6; Colonel Kyd has requested that this transcript may be considered as a Supplement to the memorandum or annexed to his letter of the 23rd September which was forwarded to you in the Packet of the Rose.



when we propose to answer in detail the advices received from the Deputy Governor and Council by the Consn. 18 Novr. Euphrates, which are particularly adverted to in the 50th Paragraph of our letters by the Rose, and we shall also reply to those now arrived by the Chesterfield. The Euphrates has been sold in Bengal, and we have allowed to be commander Captain Johnson a gratuity of their [Three] Months Pay, on account of his expences in returning to Fort Marlbro', and in lieu of all claims upon the Company.

12. Our Proceedings of the 13th of November will acquaint you with the answer that we have given to a representation from Mr. James Moore of the Fort Marlbro' Establishment, respecting his claim to a Seat in your Council there. This decision will in fact be the reply to a reference made to us by Mr. Crisp on the same subject.

#### Accounts Bills & Ca.

13. We forward to you by this Packet, a Copy of a Minute delivered in Council by the Governor General, and two advertisements that have been published at his Lordship's recommendation, the One reducing the rate of Interest to 6 per cent upon all Certificates, that may be issued after the 30th November (excepting for existing Contracts) the other authorizing Cash (as well as Bonds and Certificates bearing the Interest of 8 per Cent) to be received as a Subscription to the remittance of the India debts upon the terms resolved upon on the 31st March 1788.

14. We beg leave to refer the Minute abovementioned to Your attentive Consideration, as it contains review of the State of your Credit at this Presidency, the Conclusions drawn therefrom, and the discussions which have led to a Resolution to adopt the measure of reducing the Interest here and for declining at present to encrease the rate of exchange for the Bond remittance.

#### Miscellanea

15. We are very much concerned to acquaint you that Mr. Shore's State of health has obliged him to leave this Country and to proceed to Europe in the Ship under dispatch, we refer to a Copy of two minutes, which will be sent a number in the Packet, and to the Resolution that was passed in it in which our regret at his departure, and at the loss of his able Assistance at our Councils, is mentioned as a testimony which we have no doubt that your Hon'ble Court also think due to his honourable Services, distinguished no less by Zeal for the

paper, or the security of responsible [men?] of business about this place. If after the arrival of some of the [Seasons?] Ships from China, any further offers should be made to us, we shall accept of them to the extent of Rs. 20 lacs, with which we have already informed you, we [intended?] to supply the Canton Treasury.

#### Fort St. George

3. We have already apprized you, of our having contracted with Mr. George Tyler for delivering 30,000 Bags of Rice at Fort St. George, and 10,000 Bags at Tellicherry, in the ensuing Season Copies of the Contracts attend you in the Packet.

4. We have now to acquaint you that we have accepted of a proposition, which the same Gentlemen made to us for paying into your Treasury, at Madras, the Proceeds of certain Consignments of Rice to the Coast, to the Amount of One Lac and ten Thousand Pagodas.

5. The Terms of Agreement are these, Mr. Tyler engages to pay into the Fort St. George Treasury at a period, not exceeding Six Months, from the Presentment of his Bond to his Attornies the Sum of One Lac and Ten Thousand Pagodas, with an Interest of 6 Per Cent on each Payment from the 17th. of December 1789 to the Day of making it; in Consideration of which we agreed to issue to him Certificates, in Bengal, bearing the same Interest of 6 P. Cent. and Calculated at the Exchange of 390 Rs. for 100 Star Pagodas.

6. Mr. Tyler's Proposals, and our Letter to the Madras Presidency Consn. 16th Decr. in Explanation of our Engagement with him, will be 21st Decr. sent Numbers in the Packet.

7. That Engagement was settled in the 16th of December. In a few Days afterwards we received a Letter from your Consn. 23d Decr. Government at Fort St. George, to acquaint us that the State of the Funds would not admit of their appropriating supplies of Money for the Provision of the Spanish Investment which was estimated to amount, with Charges (Exclusive of the 15 Per Cent) to Pagodas 1,43,211 29.44, for which they Observed to us that they should be obliged to give Drafts on Bengal; noticing, at the same time, that they had repeated the Experiment of advertizing for Proposals for Bills to be granted upon us, without Success.

8. With this Information before us, we were induced to publish an Advertizement, notifying our Intention to make a Remittance to Fort St. George, and inviting proposals for Bills, to be Consn 23d Decr. paid for in Certificates bearing the established Interest of 6 Per Cent: But this was ineffectual; so

The State of our Treasury is as follows.

Ready Money			
Gold Mohurs	31,491-11-0	5,03,867-0-0	5,84,484-11-6
Siccas		1,08,556-9-1	1,25,925-9-11
Copper Coin		1,163,0-0	1,349-1-4
			<hr/> 7,11,760-6-9
Bills Receivable		3,98,778-8-4	4,62,583-1(4 7)
			<hr/>
Current Rupees			11,74,343-8-(1 7)
Balance Account Deposits			1,89,193-7-3
Ditto. Accomptant General to the Mayor's Court			1,16,918-3-3
Ditto of the Old Bonded debt on which the Interest has ceased by Public Advertisement.			3,6102-0-2
New Bonded date at 8 per cent			1,26,55,772-15-2
Ditto..Ditto..Ditto Account Madras Milly. Arrears			39,47,508-14-10
Ditto....Do....Do Bombay Ditto			18,32,247-8-3
			<hr/> 1,87,77,743-0-0
Fort William		We have the honour to be.	
7th. December 1789.		Hon'ble Sirs,	
[Per Busbridge]		Your most faithful humble Servants.	

9

## LETTER DATED 6 JANUARY 1790

*Remittance to Canton—Tyler's rice contract—Fort Marlbro'—Prince of Wales Island*

TO the Hon'ble Court of Directors & Ca.

Hon'ble Sirs,

1. We have the honour to forward to you, by the Melville castle, a Duplicate of our Advices by the Busbridge and to transmit therewith a Continuation of our Proceedings in this Department for the Month of December, with an Index.

### Canton

2. Proposals for only 18 lacs of the Remittance to your Supra Cargoes in China, during the ensuing Season, were made to us in  
 Consn. 9th Decr. Consequence of the Advertisement noticed in  
 16th Decr. the 2d. Paragraph of our Letter by the Busbridge.  
 25th Decr. for which we have raised either deposits Company's

Bengal. We feel ourselves much obliged to the Depy. Governor and Council of Fort Marlbro', for the care which they took of that detachment whilst it repaired in the inland of Sumatra and we think it *our duty to recommend Capt. Burgess to your favorable notice for the great attention which he paid to these men, after they were put under his charge.*

### Prince of Wales Island

12. Captain Light, the Superintendant of Prince of Wales Island, arrived in Bengal a short Time ago, having, as we had directed, left  
 Consn. 10th Decr. the Charge of his office,—during his Absence from  
 Sept. Proceedgs. it, with Captain [Glass?] who commands the Troops,  
 Consn. 23 Decr. We shall be enabled, we hope, during Mr. Lights  
 Sept. Proceedgs. Stay, to obtain precise Information from him in regard to your concerns under his Management, and for this purpose his Opinion has been desired upon sundry points stated to him in a Letter from our Secretary, for which we refer you to our Proceedings noted in the Margin.

### Miscellanea

13. Mr. Shore, who embarked for Europe in the Busbridge, having declared his Resignation of the Hon'ble Company's Service. An option having been given to Mr. Stuart [He Chose?] to preside at the Board of [Revenue?] Mr. Speke has been in consequence appointed President of the Board of Trade. Mr. Stuart [.....], and Mr. Speke has taken his seat at the Board of Trade.

14. Mr. John Evelyn, one of the Members of the Board of Revenue has obtained our Permission to resign your Service and return to Europe in the Melville Castle. The unsettled  
 Consn. 31st Decr. state of his Affairs is the reason assigned for Mr. Evelyn's Departure; and as he has expressed a Wish to return to India, We beg leave to offer our Testimony to his Merits & faithful Services, & to recommend his being reinstated with his Rank upon this Establishment, when he may apply to you for that purpose.

15. Mr. Day West Macdowal has been permitted to resign your Service, and proceed to England in the Melville Castle. He mentions it to be his wish—to return to Bengal as soon as his Health shall have been sufficiently reestablished, and we beg Leave to request that this Permission may be granted to him, without Prejudice to his Rank, on his Application to your Honourable Court.

16. In the 20th Paragraph of our Commercial Letter by the Busbridge, we requested you would give Directions that the Bombay which had been transmitted to your Hon'ble Court, [sic] on account of

that, unable, without great Inconvenience to the Circulation in this Country to remit Specie from hence to the Coast, we shall take it into our early consideration whether we can take any other means consistent with your interest to assist that [treasury?] or whether we must leave it entirely to the Government of Fort St. George, to obtain any supplies, they may want, exceeding the Amount of their own Resources, and that of Mr. Tyler's Engagement, by drawing, on the best Terms they can, upon this Government.

### Bombay

9. In the 7th & 8th Paragraphs of our Letter by the Busbridge we explained to you the Circumstances of a Complaint made by your Government of Bombay, in respect to a Remittance provided for them by the Resident at Benares in the Month of August 1789. They have since returned to Mr. Duncan other Bills, which he remitted to them, to the Amount of  $7\frac{1}{2}$  Lacks of Rupees. We are not otherwise concerned that this has happened, except as the Concession yielded to Nagenha Doss, on the Construction given at Bombay to the Agreement settled with him, may possibly be productive of considerable Inconvenience, in negotiating Bills on the West of India, if occasion should require them thro' any other Channel.

### Fort Marlbro'

10. Our Commercial Letter will inform you of the 'Oxfords Dispatch to Fort St. George & Fort Marlbro'; & our Proceedings of the 31st of December will bring before you our replies  
 Consn. 30th Octr. 31st of Decr. to the several Letters received from that Residency  
 31 Octr. by the Euphrates and Chesterfield. You will observe the Representation made by your Deputy Governor & Council of the Insufficiency of their present Establishment of Native Troops, & the Resolution we have passed, in consequence, to encrease the strength of the Companies Stationed at Bencoolen. As it appears that the Depy. Govr. and Council of Fort St. George have made a Reference to your Hon'ble Court as well as to us, relative to an agreement which they had entered into in regard to Salt and Customs, we have thought it most proper to leave it to you to pass a final decision upon it.

11. The Recruits, desired by the Residency at Fort Marlbro' are proceeding in the Earl of Oxford, & care has been taken, in our Instructions to Captain White, to secure to them every  
 Consn. 31st Decr. Convenience & accommodation during the Voyage. They embarked in good Spirits, encouraged, probably, by the satisfaction expressed by the men who returned in the Chesterfield, at the kind Treatment they met with since they left

21. A Report made to us upon the Survey of Stationary imported in your Ships of this Season according a Letter Consn. 30th Octr. from the Person who was employed to examine it, 31st Decr. makes a Number in the Packet. The Articles which appear therein to be of inferior Quality, and Damaged, will be sold at Public Auction, & the Amount of the Proceeds, will be paid into your Treasury.

22. In the 37 Paragraph of our Letter, dated the 5 of November, from the Revenue Department, we referred you to our Proceeding of the 25 of October upon the defective state of the Currency in this Country. We have the honor to transmit, in the packet of the Melville Castle a Memorandum of the articles wanted for the Mints that we propose to establish, and beg leave to request that [.....] may be sent out by the earliest opportunity that offers. We are very solicitous that this application may be complied with as soon as possible.

23. State of the General Treasury, on the 6th January 1790.

Ready Money

Gold Mohurs	5,605—13, . . .	89,693 . . .	1,04,043-14-1
Siccas		3,20,957-7-5	3,72,310-10-6
Copper Coins	8,416	263-0-0	305-1-3
			<hr/>
			4,76,659-9-10
Bill receivable		1,32,643-6-6	1,53,865-2-11
			<hr/>
		Crs.	6,30,524-12-9
Balance Account deposits			1,45,810-4-10
Balance Account General to the Mayor's Court			1,16,918-3-3
Balance Old Bond Debt. on which the Intt. has ceased by public Advertisement.			36,102-2-3
Balance New Bond Debt.			1,25,82,832-10-1
Balance Madras Military arrears			39,55,820-4-6
Balancee Bombay Ditto			18,32,247-8-3
			<hr/>
			1,86,69,730-15-1

Fort William  
6th January 1790  
[Per Melville Castle]

C. Benezet  
Actg. Sub. Treasr.

[I have the honour to be & co.]

Native Servants proceeding to England, should be sent back, or cancelled, on the return of such Servants to India. We have since received a Letter from Bruere, acquainting us that the Attendants upon his Family, on Board the Busbridge in the Year 1787; are come back, & requesting that the Bonds granted on their Account, & executed by Mr Justice Hyde & Mr. Fergusson, should be cancelled. We beg leave to recommend that the necessary Orders may be given, in Compliance with Mr. Bruere's Application.

17. We refer to our Proceedings noted in the Margin, for Information of the Grounds on which we have entered into engagements of Contract with Mr. H. Darley, the lowest propose, for sundry Buildings & repairs, at, & adjoining to, the Dispensary in the Old Fort Amounting to Rs. 8425.1.

Consn. 21st Augt.  
2d Octr.  
23d Octr.  
4 Decr.  
10 Decr.

18. In the 96th. Paragraph of our Letter by the Swallow We advised you of the Pension allowed to Mr. L. Belait subject to your final approval. Mr. Belait has lately died, leaving a Wife & Children destitute of Support, & real objects of Compassion; &, Under these Circumstances, We have been induced to authorize the Continuance of the Pension for the benefit of the Widow, and trust that, acquiescing in the Principles on which it was first granted, you will confirm the Resolution we have passed to extend it to Mrs. Belait & her Family.

Consn. 24th Decr.

19. The Surveyor General having acquainted us that he had some Reason to believe, upon private Information which had come to him, that General Atlas taken from this Country by the late Lieutt. Coll. Call had not been delivered to your Hon'ble Court, Another Complete Copy of that Work was prepared & forwarded the Packet of the Busbridge in a small Box, which also Contains Copies of Lieutenant Rinds Routes & Journals to & from Naugpore, and his Survey in the Douab, only new Works that have been received in the Surveyor General's Office since the last Year.

Consn. 23d Decr.

20. We beg leave to refer to your Perusal a Copy of a Letter addressed to us by the Committee for investigating & reporting upon the Claims of Mr. Benjamin Lacam, assigning the reasons that have protracted their Report to so long a Period. We also forward to you Copies of two Letters received, afterwards, from Mr. Lacam, in which he remonstrated against the Committee's Delay in making their Report. They were furnished with a Copy of the Complaint, & have replied to it. Their Letter in Answer to it will be sent with the other Papers in the Packet.

Consn. 2d Decr.

the Exchange of 390.ARS. for 100 Pagodas, to the Amount of ARS. 1,56,000, and, in Consequence of the late Advices from the Coast, (the particulars of which you will be more fully acquainted with from the Political Department) we published another Advertizement, inviting Proposals of Contract to deliver a further supply of One Lac of Bags of Rice at that Presidency by the 1st of May next.

5. We have since entered into Engagements of Contract, with Mr. A. Mair for the Delivery of One Moiety, or Consns. 27th Jany. 50,000 Bags, at the rate of Sa. Rs. 4.8 Pr. Bag, and with Mr. John Beanland for the other Moiety, at 5.8. These were the lowest Proposals, and we think them reasonable in the present Circumstances of the Season.

#### Bombay

6. We have pleasure in Reporting to you that the Experience of some Months has evinced the utility, Convenience, as well as Practicability of a regular Communication by Dawk with the Consn. 6th Jany. West of India. The Establishment, which was at first only intended as an Experiment, is now fixed (The Detail being finally settled by your Residents at Poona and Hyderabad). The rates of Postage for private Letters are determined, and regular Charges have been made for them since the 6th Ultimo.

7. We cannot omit bearing our Testimony to the earnest Zeal, which Mr. Malet has shewn to establish this Communication. It deserves our Praise, and we hope will be attended to by your Honorable Court, as one Instance of a General Conduct, which has been uniformly entitled to our Applause, and received it.

#### Prince of Wales Island

8. We beg leave to refer you to our Proceedings noted in the Margin for the Answer given by Captain Light to the several Points of Information required from him, as advised in Consn. 14th Jany. the 12th Paragraph of our Letter of the 6th Ultimo, and for our Resolutions and Letter to him communicating our Opinions and Orders upon the different subjects. Captain Light returned to Prince of Wales Island about the Middle of last Month.

#### Andamans & ca

9. The object of Captain Blairs present Deputation and the Instructions given to him have already been noticed to your Honourable Court, and the Secret Committee, from the Political Department. We have lately received Letters from Captain Blair, containing a particular Detail of his



## LETTER DATED 13 FEBRUARY 1790

*Canton—rice contracts—dak arrangements—Capt. Blair and the Andamans—case of Auriol—Kyd.*

H on'ble Sirs,

1. By the Berrington, now under dispatch, we have the Honor to forward to you a Duplicate of our Letter by the Melville Castle, and to transmit a Continuation of our Proceedings for the Month of January, with an Index, and a complete Copy of our Proceedings for the last year.

Canton

2. Our recent Advices from your Supra Cargoes inform us that all the Bills of Exchange forwarded to them last year had been accepted, and that those of the preceding year had been  
 Consn. 20th Jan. regularly paid. In addition to the Resources furnished by these Bills, They have received further Funds of Drafts upon us, and acquaint us that they have it in their Power to obtain larger Supplies by the same Means, and even at a more favourable Rate of Exchange.

3. The Circumstances of the wreck of the Vansittart have already been fully detailed to you. These are repeated to us, in the Advices from China, with the Addition that 22 Chests of the recovered Treasure had been paid into your Treasury by Captain Canning, who reserved the remaining Eleven Chests on Account of Salvage. Your Supra Cargoes have protested against Captain Canning for retaining the Money, holding him accountable for the Consequences, and we suppose will furnish you with a Report of their Proceedings on the Subject.

Fort St. George

4. Our former Advices this Season will lay before you with detailed Information of the different Measures that have been Adopted or ajitated [*sic*] to effect Remittances to your Govern-  
 Consn. 14th Jan. ment of Fort St. George a Late Proposal has been accepted from Messrs. Ferguson and Fairlie to transfer to the Company some Bills payable to them at Madras at

16. Mr. Auriol having remarked that his immediate Junior in Office was allowed to return to his duty, after an Absence of two years, we think it proper to Observe that this does not appear to us to apply to his own Case, for it will be found, on a reference to the Proceedings that his Junior, Mr. White, was employed upon Public Service, as Assistant to the Naugpore Embassy, in the years 1781 & 1782. Mr. Auriol's Continuance out of Office may be accounted for in the want of a proper Opportunity to employ him, and the same Observation might be made in regard to other Gentlemen, his Seniors in the Service.

#### Miscellanea

17. Our former Advices both of the last and present Seasons, have occasionally brought before you Representations from Mr. Lacam, and from the Committee appointed to investigate his  
 Consn. 3d Feby. Claims. The Cause of delay in the Report from the Latter will have been fully accounted for. We are more happy to inform you that this Report is completed and under Consideration but we find ourselves under the unavoidable necessity of postponing our Decision upon the Ground and Extent, of Mr. Lacam's Claims, until after the Dispatch of the Berrington. In the mean time, as Mr. Lacam is proceeding to Europe in this Ship, we think it proper to acquaint you that we have advanced to him, at different Times, for his support here, and to enable him to prepare for his Voyage to Europe, the Sum of Sa. Rs. 26,000. We beg leave to recommend that a further Advance of £ Sterling 1,000 may be made  
 Consn. 3rd Feby. to him on his Arrival in England, to be accounted for by him, when the Amount of the Compensation reasonably due to him shall have been settled.

18. We are concerned to apprise you that the Plan proposed to us by the Chief Engineer for securing the Bridge over Tolley's  
 Consn 6th Jany. Nullah, as advised in the 19th. Paragraph of our  
 14th Jany. Letter of the 7th December, has not been attended  
 20th Jany. with Success. Our Proceedings noted in the Margin, state the Reasons Assigned for the Bridge giving a Way altogether, soon after the Repairs had commenced, and the Correspondence that has passed with the Attornies of Mrs. Tolly in regard to the Building of a New Bridge, which still remains to be decided on.

19. In the 28th Paragraph of our Letter of the 5th of November we informed you of the Instructions sent to your Law Officers to carry into Execution your Directions of the 22d. of April  
 Consn. 20th Jany. 1789 for the Examination of Witness, in Consequence of a Suit instituted for a share of the Chinsurah Capture. It was intimated to us that Doubts might arise Whether

Proceedings, which He declares to have been Successful to the full Extent of his Expectations. Copies of these Letters will be sent Nos. in the Packet.

### Company's Servants

10. We have given permission to Mr. Richard Johnson, a Gentleman high in your Service on this Establishment, to proceed to Europe in the Pigot. Ill health, and Family affairs, required him to leave this Country. Upon his going away a Question arose relative to resignation of the Service. This Question we believe to have arisen, not so much, on his own Account as on Account of the Civil Servants in general. Our Decision upon it will be found in our Minutes to [which] we refer. We have only further to add, in respect to Mr. Johnson, that, as we believe him to be a very able, Zealous, and deserving Servant of the Company, so we hope that he will have your permission to return to India, without prejudice to his rank on this Establishment.

11. We beg leave to make the same Request in favor of Mr. Robert Adair, who returned to Europe in the Melville Castle.

12. our Honourable Court will observe, in our Proceedings of the 2nd Ultimo an Advertizement we have thought proper to publish containing the rules which we shall require all Servants to observe before they obtain our permission to resign your Service in future.

13. We have received a Letter from Mr. N. Bateman, whom we permitted to make a Voyage to China last year, announcing his Intention to proceed to England from that Port, and setting forth the Motives which induced him to determine on doing so. His Letter is recorded in our proceedings of the 20th of January.

14. Among the Papers, composing the Barringtons Packet, you will find a Memorial from Mr. Auriol, complaining of the Hardship he has sustained upon his removal from the Office of Sub Secretary in 1787, and his subsequent Continuance out of Employ.

15. An Extract from our Records having been furnished to Mr. Auriol, by our permission, he has annexed it to the Memorial. We have no doubt that, on perusing it, you will think with us that the object of his voyage to Bencoolen, Batavia & China was partly Commercial. You will notice the favor shewn to him in extending his leave of Absence in July 1786, and his cheerful acquiescence, after his return to Bengal, in the Resolution that had been passed for his removal from the Station of Sub Secretary.

## LETTER DATED 12 APRIL 1790

*Canton—Madras finances—Rangoon letter—rice—Bombay finances—Prince of Wales Island—Andamans—house for stationery—free school for orphans—town guards—bill for relief of insolvent debtors—scarcity of specie.*

To the Hon'ble the Court of Directors & ca.

Hon'ble Sirs,

1. By the Chesterfield now under Dispatch, we have the Honour to forwarded to you a Duplicate of our Letter by the Berrington, and a Continuation of our Proceedings for the Months of February & March.

2. We had the Honour to receive your Letter of the 19th. August last, with the several Papers mentioned in the List of Packet, by the Vestal Frigate, which arrived here on the 2nd Consn. 5th March. March. The 5th Paragraph being on a Military Subject will be replied to in our Dispatches from that Department. The remaining Paragraphs, with the Accounts referred to, do not require any particular Answer at present but we think it incumbent on us to assure you that no Exertions shall be omitted to complete and forward to your Hon'ble Court every Document required to enable you to make up the Accounts, that are to be submitted annually to Parliament.

## Canton

3. We are happy to acquaint you that Letters received from your Supra Cargoes, dated the 20th of January last, have advised us of the Payment of all the Bills remitted to them last year, Consn. 17th March. excepting One for Drs. 1,20,000, which did not fall due till the 31st. January; and that further Supplies have been obtained for Drafts upon us to the Amount of Dollars 25,130, which will be duly discharged.

## Fort St. George

4. Our Military Proceedings will inform you of particulars relative to the Troops that were embarked for Madras in the Houghton and Chesterfield. We availed ourselves of the Departure of those to make a further Consignment of Gold to the Amount of Sa. Rs. Eight Lac to the Governor in Council at Fort St. George; & we

Consn. 17th Feby.  
12th March  
17th March  
24th March

his Majesty's High Court of Admiralty be one of those Courts empowered by Acts of Parliament to send Commissions, similar to that received from you, to his Majesty's Supreme Court of Judicature in Bengal; and we have therefore made a request of his Majesty's Judges, on our parts, to Wave any Objection to the Competency of the High Court of Admiralty to require the Execution of their Commission from them, and to Oblige us by carrying it into Effect in any manner that may appear to them most advisable so that the Examination of the Evidence may be closed within the Time limited for that Purposes. They have readily connected. [sic].

20. A Copy of a Letter from Lieutt. Colonel Kyd, mentioning the Contents of two Boxes, containing Articles addressed to Sir George Young, and three Boxes addressed to Mr. M. Hastings which are forwarded in the Berrington, makes a Number in the present Dispatch. Two Packages are also sent herewith, containing Specimens of Silk and Cotton.

21. The state of the Treasury is as follows:—

State of the General Treasury 11th February 1790

Ready Money			
Gold Mohars	16,920.2	2,70,722-0-0	3,14,037-8-4
Siccas		1,81,500-5-6	2,10,540-6-5
Copper Coin	48,160-0-0	1,505-0-0	1,745-12-10
			<hr/> 5,26,323-11-7
Bill Receivable		2,91,997-12-10	3,38,717-7-2
			<hr/>
	Current Rupees		8,65,041-2-9
Balance Account Deposits		1,50,425 5	
Balance Accountant General Mayor's Court		1,06,648-3-5	
Balance Old Bond debt on which the Interest has ceased by Public Advertisement		36,102-2-0	
Balance New Bond debt		1,27,73,689-7-1	
Balance of Madras Military Arrears		40,02,379-7-3	
Balance Bombay Military Arrears		18,73,070-3-11	
			<hr/> 1,89,32,314-6-0

Fort William  
the 13th February 1790  
[Original per Berrington  
Duplicate per Chesterfield]

C. Benezet  
Actg. Sub Treasr.  
I have the honour to be & ca.

jecting the Company to Expence. This Opinion has been forwarded to Bombay, & we suppose that the Measures that may be pursued in Consequence will be detailed in your Advices from that Presidency.

10. In the 7th & 8th Paragraphs of our Letter of the 7th December last, we noticed to you the Substance of a Complaint from Bombay, & our Answer to it, on the Subject of some  
 Consn. 24th Feby. Remittances made to that Presidency from Benares in the Month of August preceding. It now appears by an Explanation lately received, that our Intentions, in regard to their Supplies, had been misunderstood, and that an Idea prevailed at Bombay that the Resident at Benares had made the remittances without our knowledge and Authority, which was not the Case.

11. Our Proceedings of the 10th of February & 24th of March will bring before you the particulars of a Conditional Remittance, which we have accepted for the supply of Bombay, from the House of Messrs. Grahams & Co., to the Amount of By. Rs. 1,50,000, and a positive Remittance of By. Rs. 40,000, in Bills received here in Payment for Opium Sales.

12. We have deemed it advisable, in the present State of Affairs, to come to a Determination to dispatch in future two Mails instead of one, from Calcutta to Bombay in the Course of  
 Consn. 3d March each week; and, as the speedy & frequent Communication between your Presidency of Fort St. George & the West of India is equally an Object of Importance, we have requested those Governments to adopt the same measure. The Dispatches from Calcutta and Fort St. George will be arranged so as to arrive at Masulipatnam nearly at the same Hour, and will be detained there for each other, except on express of urgent Occasions.

13. We have intimated to your Presidencies of Fort St. George & Bombay our Intention to send a Dispatch to Europe early in the Month of August, and have requested that the  
 Consn. 10th March necessary Orders may be given without Delay to the proper Officer to expedite the different Accounts that are annually required to be submitted to Parliament, and any other Papers for your Hon'ble Court, so that they may be forwarded to this Country in Time to be included in the Packet.

#### Prince of Wales Island

14. The Arrival of Captain Light at Prince of Wales Island has been Reported to us in a Letter received from him under date the 23th February. The Farmers, who accompanied him from Bengal,

have since remitted to them sundry Bills for small sums that have been tendered to us by Individuals, making in the Aggregate near a Lac of Rupees.

5. You will observe that previous to the Receipt or even knowledge of this supply, a Report was made by our  
 Consn. 17th March Accountant upon some Statements transmitted to us  
 Consn. 19 March by General Medows, (soon after He took Charge of  
 24th March. your Affairs upon the Coast of Coromandel) that  
 the actual Remittances, received at Fort St. George, from Bengal had  
 exceeded, in the sum of Pagodas 74.140, the supplies estimated by  
 that Government to be required from us in the year on the 30th of  
 April 1790.

6. We have to add to the Subject of the 58th. Paragraph of our  
 Letter, dated the 5th of November 1789, that your  
 Consn. 10th Feby. Government at Fort St. George have lately forward-  
 ed to us a Copy of a letter from the Minister at Ran-  
 goon assigning reasons for his inability to discharge immediately the  
 Amount of some Disbursements incurred on Account of One of their  
 Ships, but promising that the Payment shall not be retarded by any  
 unnecessary Delays.

7. Copies of the Contracts entered into with Mr. John Beanland  
 and Mr. Arthur Mair, for delivering 50,000 Bags of Rice each, at  
 Madras, as noticed in the 5th Paragraph of our Letter of the 13th of  
 February, make Numbers in the Present Dispatch. We think it neces-  
 sary to state to you—that, from Motives of Indulgence to Mr. Beanland,  
 (who appears to have misunderstood our Intentions, and consequently  
 to have tendered Rice at Fort St. George, not exported by himself,  
 but purchased at that Presidency,) and because we now understand  
 that there is no immediate want of Rice on the Coast, we have con-  
 sented that the Period for completing his Engagements shall be  
 extended to the 30th of September.

8. Our Proceedings of the 10th March will furnish you with In-  
 formation of the particulars of a further Engagement  
 Consn. 10th March with Mr. David Cumming, to secure another Supply  
 of Rice at Fort St. George provided the Quality shall be approved by  
 that Government.

#### Bombay

9. We refer you to our Consultations, noted in the Margin for  
 an Opinion delivered by our Advocate General upon a Reference made  
 to him of Papers received from Bombay, relating to  
 Consn. 24th Feby a Discovery of some Counterfeit Gold Mohurs of  
 19th March. the Currency of that Government, which They are  
 anxious to call in as soon as possible, without sub-

Copy of a minute delivered in Council by the Governor-General, in which his Lordship, after briefly reviewing the whole subject, in the different Lights & Circumstances, under which it was proper to consider it, recommends a liberal and just remuneration, which we are of Opinion should be allowed to Mr. Lacam, for the entire relinquishment of his Claims on the Company.

19. Mr. Lacam forward[ed] to us from the Berrington his Account Current made up to the 31st January 1790, and a Deposition to certain Facts relating to the Navigation leading to New Harbour. Upon these Papers it is not necessary to make any other remark that they are forwarded as Numbers in the Packet.

20. Mr. Lyon Prager, pursuant to a Clause in his Covenants with the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Company, having delivered in an annual Account, affirmed on Oath, of all Diamonds, Diamond Boat  
 Consn. 5th March & ca. purchased and disposed of by him, closed on the first day of March, It makes a number in the present Dispatch.

21. We are now to report to you that the different Articles of damaged Stationery, or Factory Stores, adverted to in the 21st Paragraph of our Letter of the 6th January, were sold  
 Consn. 17th March at Public Auction for the sum of Sa. Rs 3993.14 exclusive of Charges, & that the Amount of the Proceeds has been paid into your Treasury. Upon the subject of Stationery we are also to apprize you that the New Buildings intended for the reception of it, are completed and will be sufficiently dry by the 1st of May next, for the different Articles to be deposited in them, when the House at present occupied for that purpose will be relinquished.

22. Our Proceedings noted in the Margin, will furnish you with detailed Information of the Plan and Establishment in Bengal of a Free School, for the Education of Indigent Orphans, and  
 Consn. 20th Jany other Children. To promote the objects of this Institution, as far as lay in our Power, we have been induced, at the Request of the Managers, to forward Copies of their Plan to the Governors of the different Foreign Settlements, & we have Ordered one of the Surgeons at the Presidency to attend, and prescribe for, the Sick Children. We have also directed that such medicines as may Occasionally be required shall be furnished Gratis from the Company's Dispensary.

23. We shall transmit to you Nos. in the Packet Copies of two Representations, that have been made to us by the Principals of the different Houses of Agency in Calcutta, upon relieving the Distresses of the Settlement at large, and  
 Consn. 17th March 7 April the Commercial part of it in particular, from the



are Settled, and tho' from necessity maintained at the Company's Expence at present, it is understood that They will begin to reimburse their Expences at the End of Twelve Months.

#### Andamans

15. We forwarded to you, in the Packet of the Berrington Copies of the Reports that we had received from Captain Blair on the subject of his Deputation to the Andamans. For your further Information of particulars, relating to the Settlement formed there, we transmit to you by the present Dispatch, Copies of two Letters that were written to Captain Blair by our Secretary, and sent by the Ranger Snow on the 19th of February, and by his Majesty's Sloop Atlanta on the 19th March.

#### Company's Servants

16. We beg leave to state to you the following particulars in regard to a Claim upon Mr. Peter Moore, one of your Civil Servants, who is now in England, which his Attornies here have refused to discharge, having no authority for that purpose from their constituent.

17. Mr. Peter Moore was appointed to the Station of first Members of the Provincial Council of Moorshedabad on the 21st March 1780, and from that Date according to the established Rules of the Service, He became entitled to the Salary annexed to the Office. On an Examination of the Moorshedabad Accounts, it appears, however, that Mr. Moore drew the Salary for the months of Maug, Phaugin, & Chait (the Disbursements being made, and the Treasury Accounts kept according to the Bengal Style) or from the 12th January to the 20th March preceding his Appointment, which makes an Excess of Sa. Rs. 2100, as follows.

	For Maug, or from the 12th Jany. to the 9th Feby. 1780—	900·00
Consn. 19th March	For Phaugin or from the 10th Feby. to 10th March.	900·00
	To the 9th Chait, or from the 11th to the 20th March	300·00
		<hr/>
		Sa. Rs. 2,100·00

It will remain with your Honorable Court to call on Mr. Moore for Payment of this Amount in Europe.

#### Miscellanea

18. We have already assigned Reasons for the Delay that occurred in considering, and deciding upon, the Voluminous Papers brought before us by the Committee for investigating and reporting Mr. Lacams Claims. These we have the Honor to forward to you by the Chesterfield, with a

Consn. 7th April  
Consn. 3th March

of Judicature, for the Examination of Witnesses in a cause instituted by the officers of his Majesty's Sloop Nymph against the Company, relative to the Capture of Chinsurah in 1781, with the depositions, exhibits, and proceedings, which have been carefully sealed, and signed on the outside, by the Judges who executed the Commission. In order to afford the clearest possible Proof of the Affidavits of the late Mr. Rop & of Mr. Blume and Lieutt. Bradshaw, which are set out in the Allegator upon which the witnesses were to be examined, it was thought advisable to secure the deposition of Sir Robert Chambers himself before whom they were taken.

31. Sir Robert Chambers having been examined as a Witness thought proper to leave the Execution of the Commission to the other Judges.

32. Copies of the Letters addressed to us by the Advocate General, after the Receipt of the Commission from the High Court of Admiralty will be sent Nos. in a Packet.

Fort William

We have the honor to &c.

12th April 1790.

[Per *Chesterfield*]

State of the General Treasury the 11th April 1790.

Gold Mohirs 643-1

Siccas 1, 14, 136-4-7

Arcots 4,64,847

Copper Coin 724

11,935-3-10

1,32,398-1-6

4,84,691-4-6

839-13-5

6,29,804-7-3

8,61,705-5-2

Bills Receivable Sa. Rs. 7,42,849-6-9

Ct. Rs. 14,91,569-12-5

Balance Acct. Deposits

Ct. Rs. 1,37,461-2-5

Balance Accountant General to  
the Mayor's Court }

1,06,648-3-5

Old Bond Debt. on which  
the Interest has ceased. }

36,102-0-2

New Bond Debt @ S.P. Cent.

1,27,02,750-10-1

Do. Acct. Madras Milly.  
Arrears

38,74,687-10-3

Do. Acct. Bombay Do.

18,70,819-7-5

1,87,26,469-1-9

Errors Excepted

C. Benzet

Actg. Sub Treasr.

Inconvenience that has been felt from the Scarcity of circulating *Spécie*. Copies of our answers, to which we refer upon, will be sent at the same Time.

24. Our Proceedings, noted in the margin, will bring to your Consn. 31st Decr. Notice a representation from the Superintendent of 14th Jany the Police, urging the necessity of reestablishing the 5 Feby. Old Guards of Buxareas, & Seedewals, that were 24 Feby. formerly stationed at the Outlets & Gaults of this Town.

25. These Guards were reduced, on the 22nd. Feby. 1786, but we have been induced to allow their reestablishment from a Conviction that They were absolutely necessary, and because the Inhabitants had a Right to such Guards, since the Tax, which was levied for the express purpose of supporting them, continued to be paid, tho' it was not applied to any Service tending to the immediate Benefit or Security of the Town.

26. We have only to add to these Advices that we have the Pleasure to transmit to you, a No. in the Packet, A Draft prepared by your Advocate General, and approved by the Judges of his Majestys Supreme Court of Judicature of a Bill mentioned in our Advices by the Swallow and proposed to be submitted to Parliament, for the relief of insolvent Debtors in this Country.

27. It is included in the Draft that neither the persons of insolvent Debtors discharged, nor their effects subsequently acquired, shall be subject to execution. But the Judges, by a note at the beginning of the Draft laid before them, expressed a doubt whether it would not be better that the Effects should remain liable.

28. We beg Leave to recommend both Points to your attention, and that as little Delay, as Circumstances will admit, may be allowed of in presenting the Bill to the Consideration of Parliament.

29. On the dispatch of the Swallow a Copy of a Letter dated the 7th of August from the Accountant General was sent in the Packet with Copies of its Enclosures, in answer to letter from Colonel Murray Chiefly relative to a remittance to England of the debt which had accrued on Certificates. This Answer from the Accountant General having been communicated to Colonel Murray, he has lately addressed us on the subject, and at his request, we transmit a Copy of his letter a number in this dispatch. We understand that the Accountant General proposes to deliver a reply to it, and, if that should be received before the Packet is closed, we shall forward a Copy of it to your Honble Court.

30. We transmit to you a No. in the Packet Copy of the Commission enclosed in your General Letter dated 22 April 1789 from the High Court of Admiralty to the Judges of the Supreme Court

tendent of the Police furnished us accordingly with such particulars as they were able to procure, but as these were defective, and your Orders applied, generally, to all the officers and petty Officers who left their Ships and remained

in India, We made a Publication in the Gazette, requiring them to hold themselves in readiness to proceed to  
 Consn. 18th June. England by the first Opportunities, and declaring that, if any of them should continue in Bengal or the Company's other Possessions under this Government after the 1st January 1791, They would subject themselves to be dealt with as the Acts of Parliament now in Force in respect to Persons unlicensed to reside or continue in the Limits of the Company's Territories have allowed and Authorized.

6. Having now replied to your Commands of the 2nd December 1789, we shall enter upon those Subjects, that require it, and are detailed on our Proceedings since we last wrote.

#### Canton

7. The extent of our engagements for Remittances to your Supra Cargoes, on Account of the Current Year, has been mentioned in our former Addresses, and the particulars are detailed in a Letter which We dispatched to Canton on the 28th of April, Making an Aggregate of Cr. Rs. 18,00,000.

8. Since this Remittance was effected, Mr. Redhead, whose Bills were received for three Lacks and fifty Thousand of it, applied to us in consequence of an extraordinary Failure which  
 Consn. 21st July he stated to have arisen in the Cotton Crops on the Malabar Coast, to cancel a Part of his Engagements, as far as Sa. Rs. 1,50,000; but we declined compliance and assigned our Reasons for expecting that he would make every possible Exertion to fulfill the whole of his Agreement.

9. Under the Head of the Fort St. George Presidency we shall acquaint you with the Orders we gave for appropriating to the Services of the War a Part of the Bullion brought in the  
 Consn. 26th May China Ships for the Supply of your Treasury at Canton, and we have only to observe in this place that, to obviate any disappointment of your Supra Cargoes upon not receiving the whole of the Cash Consignments expected from Europe, We authorized them to draw upon us at a short Sight for any Sums

## LETTER DATED 31 JULY 1790

*Deserters from ships—Canton—funds for Mysore War—smuggling of opium—Capt Blair and the Andamans—Kyd—interest on bonds and certificates—forgery of certificates—dak service*

TO the Court of Directors

Hon ble Sirs,

1 We have the Honor to transmit to you, by your Ship Houghton, a Duplicate of our General Letter by the Chesterfield and a continuation of our Proceedings in this Department for the Months of April, May June, and July

2 On the 9th of May we received from Madras your Dispatches of the 2nd of December 1789, which had been forwarded to that Presidency by the Minerva We shall take up the Subjects in the usual Way, Abstracting the several Paragraphs in their Order

Para (1) Date of your last  
Despatches

(2) Copies sent of the new  
Commissions of Govern-  
ment to Fort St George  
and Bombay

3 The Paragraphs do not require  
any Answer

(3 4) Resolutions respecting  
the Qualifications of Mates  
for Ships in the Company's  
Service

4 regulations noticed in the Paragraphs will, of course, be duly attended to, if, at any Time, it should be found expedient to appoint Officers to the Ships in your Service during their stay at this Presidency

Orders respecting Persons  
who have deserted from  
the Company's Ships that  
arrived in England the  
preceding year

5 In consequence of the directions in this Paragraph, We desired that the fullest Enquiry might be made to ascertain the Places of abode and present occupations of the Persons, Named in the List The Superin

Consta. 28th April. into with the Merchants of their Presidency, by which their first and early Supply of Cr. Rs. 22,00,000 was obtained for their Bills on this Government. We could not hesitate in Admitting that the conduct of the Merchants was liberal, and altho' the Rate of Exchange was rather high, and the Period settled for the Payment of the Bills was shorter than usual. We were satisfied that the individuals who subscribed to the supply could not have afforded to Advance their Money, for so great a total Amount, upon lower terms without Loss.

14. You will naturally suppose that the sudden appearance of Bills for so considerable a Sum, (added to which other Bills had been subsequently drawn upon us for a large Amount) at  
Consta. 28th April  
19th, 21st May  
2d, 4th June  
21st May  
14 July  
30th April  
28th July  
a Season of the Year when our Revenue Receipts were the most circumscribed, must have occasioned a good deal of Embarrassment to our Treasury; but as we obtained much Assistance from the exertions of your Residents at Lucknow and Benares, from the liberal Consent of the Bill holders to suspend their claim to Payment of a Part of the Amount of their Drafts at the Times they became due, And from temporary Loans repayable in two and four Months, (upon which the urgency of the case induced us to allow the utmost Interest of 12 Per Cent annum) the difficulties that first occurred on receiving the Madras Bills were soon removed.

15. In Addition to the Funds that might be obtained by the Government at Fort St. George for Bills on Bengal, We calculated on a certain, and considerable, supply to their wants.  
Consta. 16th April. if any Ships of the Philippine Company should call upon the Coast with Dollars intended for the Payment of the Spanish Investment providing here, in which case We gave them Authority to receive the Dollars and grant a Credit for the Amount upon us: But, afterwards, to obviate the disappointment, which a failure in that Resource might occasion, if, as we had private, tho' not official, Intelligence, Your Engagement with the Philippine Company had been dissolved, We thought it an Advisable Measure, and  
Consta. 14th May  
26 May  
therefore Authorized your Government of Fort St. George, (that the prosecution of the War might not be impeded), to take out of the Ships destined for Canton a Part of the Consignment of Treasure laden on each, to an Amount not exceeding in the whole the Sum of £ Stg. 70,000.

16. We trust that the large Remittances from Bengal to China this Year and the means proposed to your Supra Cargoes of obtaining further Supplies as setforth in the 9th Paragraph of this Letter will prevent any ill Effect from this Diversion, which we have been constrained to recommend, of your China Resources.

they might be able to procure, for Bills upon us, on Terms which we calculated to be as favourable, or Advantageous, to the Company as those were of the Engagements which we made for direct Remittances from this Country.

10. In the 22d. Paragraph of our Letter of the 10th of August 1789 We acquainted you that we had referred to our Accountant General the Adjustment of the concern between the  
 Consn. 30th April Hon'ble Company and the Firm of Price & Co. for  
 Consn. 30th April Remittance to Canton in the years 1787/8 and  
 19th May 1788/9. His report upon the Subject, with the correspondence and Accounts alluded to, are recorded in our proceedings noted in the Margin. The Balance due to the Company, as far as it could be settled, until a further reference should be made to your Supra Cargoes, is liquidated by our having accepted and cancelled Bills to the Amount of £ St. 5067.18.6, which the Supra Cargoes had drawn upon your Hon'ble Court in favour of the House on the 4th. January 1790, and under the Numbers from 250 to 259. One of the Setts of the Bills, which have been cancelled, will be forwarded in the Packet.

11. The House of Cockerell and Co. have produced to us a Certificate from your Supra Cargoes in China of the Completion of their Engagements for the Remittance made, thro' them, to Canton in the Year 1788/9. You will observe that all the other Supplies of that Season, thro' different Channels, had been previously received, and that the Delay in our obtaining Advice of the Payment of the Bills of Messrs. Cockerell and Co. was owing to the Circumstances of all the Country Ships for Bengal having quitted China, before these Bills become due.

#### Fort St. George

12. The means of Providing the necessary Funds would at the Presidency of Fort St. George, in Addition to their own resources to enable them to prosecute with vigour the War into which We have been forced, with Tippoo Sultan engaged much of our Attention, and We have for the purpose made the utmost Exertions to furnish them with ample Supplies. The Bills which they have drawn and the Supplies which they must have obtained in Grain and from the remittances we have made to them, since the 31st January 1790 Amount as per the Statement which will be transmitted a Number in the Packet of the *Houghton* to Crs. 87,18,623.13.3.

13. Their Advices by this Opportunity will furnish you, we have no doubt, with detailed Information of the Negotiations they entered

22. We beg leave to point out to your Notice a Letter that has been addressed to us by the Firm of Lambert and Rose, on the Subject of Duties levied at Madras on a Quantity of Opium that had been landed at that Presidency for the Purpose of reexportation, and the Grounds upon which we have recommended that the whole of the Duties levied should be retraded allowing the same Rule to operate in respect to all cases of similar Nature.

23. The Evidence of the 1st and 2nd Officers and Securing of the Country Ship Fyzallum being required at Fort St. George upon the Trial of a Manilla Man named Placedo De Leon, for an attempt to assassinate three Europeans on board that Ship in the Roads of Masulipatam, We have taken Engagements from them to appear in Consequence at Madras, and have allowed them such Monthly sums for their Support, while Absent from their respective Employs, as appeared reasonable. The Allowances commence from the day of their Embarkation, and are to continue during their detention, and for their Voyage back according to the Season of the Year.

#### Bombay

24. Our Correspondence, in this Department with your Government of Bombay does not furnish many subjects of Notice since the Departure of the Chesterfield.

25. Our Proceedings mentioned in the Margin will bring before you their Application for the Opinion of our Advocate General in a case of Perjury, which we accordingly obtained and forwarded; An Intimation from Colonel Abercromby to Lord Carnwallis of his having a prospect of getting three or four Lacs of Rupees for Bills on Benares, exclusive of the engagement with Nuggena Doss,—and a Letter, of the 28th April, in Acknowledgement of the different Advices from this Government, that had not been particularly replied to before.

26. This Letter acquainted us that the Plan of the Frigate, which they proposed building, of 28 Guns, had been settled, after advising upon the Subject with a Person whom the Commdore of his Majesty's Squadron had recommended to give his opinion upon it, and that the keel had been laid; but we desired that they would not proceed further in Building of the Ship until they received Instructions from Bengal, as the State of your Affairs was Materially changed since *our Authority* for incurring the expence was first conceded, and the Squadron of his Majestys Ships in India was ready to Act for your Service, whenever the whole or any Part of it might be required for the purpose.



17. General Meadows having suggested to Lord Cornwallis that he conceived it might be practicable to obtain a Loan of four or five lacs of Pagodas at an Interest of 10 Per Cent per Annum, provided the punctual Discharge of the Interest should be assured to the lenders. We have authorized your Government of Madras to take the necessary Measures for procuring a Loan to that extent upon such Conditions, either redeemable at the option of the Company at the end of two Years, or engaging for the positive repayment of it at the expiration of that Term, if it should be Stipulated for by any of the Subscribers at the Time that the loan is made.

18. We were induced to sanction this mode of supply at a rate of Interest exceeding that which the Company have been accustomed to allow, from a conviction that we should be justified in making such a sacrifice by the effect it would produce in diminishing the Drains of Specie from this Country, which would yet continue to furnish equal Resources for carrying on the War.

19. Being of Opinion that a punctual and ready discharge, of the annual Interest on the whole of your Bonded Debt (including the above Loan) at the Time it becomes due, would be more acceptable to the Bond Holders at Madras than the Payments which are now made at Quarterly Periods, We have desired your Servants on the Coast to Adopt the former Rule generally, and if at any Time the state of their Treasury should not admit of the Payments being made in Money as they fall due, or whenever it may suit the Holders of the Bonds to accept of the Alternative, to draw Bills of Exchange upon us for the Annual Interest in favour of the Proprietors of Bonds or their Order, at whatever may be the Current Rate of Exchange between the two Presidencies at the time.

20. Upon considering a Representation from Mr. Arthur Mair of the Difficulties, he experienced, in procuring Tonnage to enable him to complete his deliveries of Rice at Fort St. George  
 Consn. 16th April and circumstances of Impediment having occurred to the Completion of his Contracts, We have agreed to indulge him with an Extension of the Period originally fixed for this Purpose, as we had done upon a similar Representation from Mr. Beauford, of which we advised you in the 7th Paragraph of our Letter of the 12th of April.

21. The additional Supply of Rice at Fort St. George, mentioned in the 8th Paragraph of the same Letter, was received by that Government, upon the Terms that had been settled with the Proprietors, and it has been paid for accordingly in Certificates.

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27. The Conditional Remittance adverted to in the 11th Paragraph of our Letter dated the 12th of April 1790, Consn. 30th July has been completed, the Parties engaged in it having produced to us, in a cancelled State, The Bond which we had obtained from them on that Account, and forwarded to your Presidency of Bombay.

### Fort Marlbro'

28. The Duplicate of a Letter from Fort Marlbro', which arrived here in the Month of June, has informed us that the remaining part of our Volunteer Detachment had expressed a desire to return to Bengal by the way of Fort St. George. Septr. Proceedgs  
Consn. 21st June, when an Opportunity offered, rather than wait for a direct Conveyance, and had been accordingly embarked in a Country Ship called the Marlbro'. We are happy to observe that the exemplary Conduct of these People, during their detention, had continued to Merit the Approbation of the Deputy Governor and Council.

29. The same Letter Notifies the arrival of the Oxford with the Recruits that were embarked in that Ship.

30. Other Subjects brought before us in this Letter, which may be considered as more immediately requiring your Notice, will be pointed out to you in our future Addresses. When the Documents to which we are referred shall have arrived, and an Opportunity of replying to them shall offer.

### Prince of Wales Island

31. Our Proceedings, noted in the Margin, contain the Letters which We have received from Captain Light, and written to him, since his return to Prince of Wales Island. His own situation as Superintendent, and the Reasons He assigns for wishing to be put upon such footing of established Allowance as might preclude the necessity of his engaging in Commercial Concerns, remain undecided on, until we can learn from Captain Light whether any encrease to his Allowance can be provided from the Island itself, without Inconvenience to the Inhabitants or Affecting in any manner the growing Prosperity of the Place.

Septr. Proceedgs.  
Consn. 7th and  
14th May  
18th June

### Andamans

32. The Letters from Captain Blair, to which we refer, will lay before you the continuation of his Proceedings in the Survey and



Alexander Kyd.

(Reproduced from *Historical Records of the Survey of India. Vol. II*  
by the courtesy of the Surveyor General of India.)

Settlement of the Andamans, and our observations upon the different Points brought before us that are more immediately deserving of remark. In the present State of that Establishment, it is impossible to form any decisive Opinion of the Advantages that may ultimately be derived from it. The Progress in Cultivation is unavoidably slow, tho' the Soil appears promising, from the cautions that are necessary to be observed against the Inhabitants, whom Time only can reconcile to the new Settlers. A few inoffensive Fishermen, who were sent from this Country, have lately been destroyed by these Savages.

33. Captain Kyd, your Surveyor General, who returned some weeks ago from the Andamans, where he had gone with Commodore Cornwallis, is preparing a Report upon the Subjects of his Survey and Investigation. We shall have the Honor of transmitting to you a Copy of it, as soon as an Opportunity offers after we receive it.

#### Accounts, Audits, &c

34. Being desirous of promoting the Convenience and Advantage of the Proprietors of the Hon'ble Company's Interest Bonds, who, by not residing in Calcutta, might experience difficulty and incur expence from the Annual Interest being receivable only from the General Treasury. We have thought proper to Authorize the Collectors of Revenue, within these Provinces, and the Residents at Benares and Lucknow to discharge the Annual Interest becoming due upon any of these Bonds, under such Rules and Limitations as well prevent double Payments on the same Account. The Advertizement which we published on this occasion, with the Resolutions which we passed on some Questions stated on the Subject by the Resident at Lucknow, will make a number in the present Dispatch.

35. After passing these Resolutions, We took into our serious Consideration the Apprehensions which might be entertained, by the Public Creditors, at this Juncture, of their suffering great Inconvenience from a Delay, which the Exigencies of Government might occasion in the discharge of the Certificate Debt, or from a less regular Payment of the Interest on the Bonded Debt than had been usual; and we published Assurances and Declarations to the following Effect.—

1st That the utmost punctuality might be relied on in the discharge of the annual Interest on Bonds at any of the Revenue Treasuries, at Lucknow, Benares, and Calcutta, on observing the necessary and prescribed Notification respecting any Alteration in the Place of Payment.

2nd. That the Surplus of the Revenue should be appropriated to the discharge of Certificates, and that the Interest on Certificates should be paid Annually in the same Manner as Bonds until the Principal could be discharged in Rotation.

3rd That Madras and Bombay Military Arrear Bonds should be received in Subscriptions to the Remittance to England that was offered on the Advertizement of the 31st of March, 1788, for the Sums which they Specify in Current Rupees, and at the Exchange of Bengal Bonds, Vizt. 1.11 Pr. Current Rupee.

4th. That the Certificates, which had been put upon the Register on Account of the Company in the course of last Year, should be no longer disposed of, but struck out of the Register, which, would then exhibit the precise Amount of Certificates actually in Circulation.

5th. That all Certificates which should be issued from and after the 1st of June 1790 (except for existing Contracts or Engagements entered into for Certificates bearing an Interest of 6 P Cent, and for Salaries due between the 31st October (89 and 31st May 1790) should bear an Interest of 8 P Cent Pr. Annum.

36. Having signified in the Resolutions which we have mentioned that the Certificates which were put on the Register last year on Account of the Company, would not be disposed of,

Consn. 5th May We have only to point out to your Notice a Statement submitted by the Accountant General, which exhibits the Amount of Certificates that had been negociated by his Deputy between the 4th of August 1789 and 9th of March 1790, as a Continuation of our Advices upon the same Subject.

37. We beg Leave to refer you to our Proceedings, for detailed Information respecting a Forgery discovered, some time ago, of one of the Company's Certificates, and the Means taken to Apprehend the Persons who are supposed to have been concerned in it. These Proceedings contain the Advertizements which we published at different Times, offering rewards, &c. for the discovery and Conviction of the Delinquents, and some correspondence which took place with Mr. Titsingh, the Director at Chinsurah, on a Supposition that some of the People had taken refuge and were concealed in the Dutch Settlement at Bernagore.

38. The Attempt thus made to Negotiate a forged Certificate imposed upon us the Necessity of correcting the Form of those Obligations, so as to encrease the difficulty of falsifying them, which any Chance of success to the Delinquents, and to bring the Act of forging them as much as possible within the Statutes applicable to this Country, that would punish at least in some Degree, an Offence so highly injurious to the Interests of Society.

39. To this End, in lieu of issuing Certificates, according to the Original Mode, we have Adopted the form of promissory Notes, prepared with the Approbation of the Judges of the Supreme Court, which we presume will obtain all the Purposes in view, that the Situation of things Admits, until an Act of Parliament shall be passed in England to punish in a more exemplary Manner, than the existing Laws supposed to be in Force here allow. Persons who may be guilty of the Crime of Forgery in India.

Consn. 9th June  
28th July

40. We beg Leave to recommend this Point to your Attention, that the proper Steps may be taken, if in the wisdom of Parliament it shall seem meet to obtain a Law to be passed, under which so great an Offence shall be punished capitally in this Country.

41. The Regulations which we have made, for conducting the issue of Promissory Notes, were recommended by your Accountant General, whose Zeal for the preservation of your Credit, and whose constant Attention to those Engagements, within the limit of his Official care, we have frequently had occasion to commend. A Copy of the Regulations will make a Number in the Packet. The Notes (of which one is also sent) are at present prepared under the immediate Charge and inspection of our Secretary, from Plates that have been engraved for the Purpose; but to obtain a better Security against Frauds, We request that your Hon'ble Court will either send out annually from England, by different Ships, a certain Number of Blank Promissory Notes, of the new Form, on paper bearing the Company's Water Mark, sufficient, according to Mr. Larkin's Calculation, for the expenditure of two Years, as well for the sake of ensuring the arrival of an Ample supply in case of Accidents to your Ships as to provide against any want if the Issue should exceed the Estimate, or, that you will furnish us with a sufficient Quantity of Blank Paper of the Proper Size, bearing the Company's Water Mark, and with it a few Copper Plates and Presses

## Miscellaneous

43. Our Letters Pr. Busbridge of the 5th November (Para' 37) and Pr. Mcville Castle of the 6th January (Para 22) will have acquainted you with the defective State of the Currency in this Country, and the Measures we had adopted to correct it. Our Proceedings of the 28th May, 25th June and 30th July will bring before you our Mint Master's Report of the Progress made in constructing the Machinery for the new Mints the Consequent Alteration in the Mint Establishment and the Reasons Assigned for the Delay in commencing the new Coinage.

44. On the 21st of July we were acquainted by the Mint Master that he should be ready to begin the Coinage of Gold after the Europe manner on the first of the following Month, and we caused our Advertizement to be published for the Information of Individuals declaring the conditions on which their Bullion would be coined, and Authorizing the new Gold to be received by the Collectors of Revenue and other Officers of Government in Payment of the Demands of the Company. A specimen of the New Coin will be sent in the Packet.

45. Lieutt. Isaac Humphrys and Lieutenant Golding, of the Engineer Corps having afforded very ready and useful Assistance in Superintending the Construction of the Madunary for the different Mints, and inventing and executing some part of it, particularly the Milling Instrument, the Governor General has been pleased to record his Sentiments thereon, in our Proceedings of the 21st of July, and, at his Lordship's recommendation, we have acquiesced in granting such recompence for their services, and for the reimbursement of the expences which they had actually incurred, as We deemed them justly entitled to.

46. We have the Honor to forward to you, by the Houghton, a Copy of the new Contract entered into with Mr. Campbell for taking care of the Company's Factors [sic] Stores, and Supplying different Articles of Stationery that may be required by the Public Officers of Government between the 1st June 1790 and 31st of August 1792. Our Proceedings Noted in the Margin contain all the Papers that are necessary for your Information on the subject of this Contract, and We beg leave to refer them to your Perusal.

47. The Post Master General having suggested to us some Alterations in the Establishment of the Dawk Stages between the Presidency and Balasore, as the Means of accelerating the Conveyance of Letters to the South-



ward. We have allowed them to be carried into Execution, the difference of Expence being very inconsiderable.

48. The Dawk between Masulipatam and the West of India, we are happy to inform you, is now completely established, under the immediate Control of our own Officers, the Nizam Consn. 23rd April having withdrawn his Hircarrahs, and permitted the Resident's People to be stationed between Hyderabad and Tuljapore. Letters are received from Bombay and Poona twice in the course of every Week. They Generally arrive in 21 Days from Poona, and 23 from Bombay in the Dry Weather, and in 23 Days from Poona and 25 from Bombay in the Rainy Season.

49. Messrs. Lambert, Ross, and Biddulph, having signified to us their Intention to Freight a Ship, with Provisions & ca. to Botany Bay, on our granting them our Permission, We have agreed to allow it, provided they enter into an Engagement, that the Vessel shall proceed to that Port (whatever it may be) which is the Place of the Governor's Residence, and that the People who are sent there shall conform to all Regulations that have been made or may be made, during their stay, by proper Authority.

50. As the Letter from these Gentlemen Notifies to us their Determination to propose to Government at home a Permanent Supply of Provisions & ca. (under certain Conditions) to the Inhabitants at Botany Bay, and as Lord Cornwallis has been pleased to express his Intention to recommend it to the consideration of his Majesty's Ministers, We furnish you with a Copy of it for your particular Information.

51. Lord Cornwallis has recorded on our Proceedings a Copy of a Letter written to his Lordship by Mr. Grenville, one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, directing that Consn. 7th July every requisite Attention and Assistance should be afforded to the Commanders of two Frigates, fitted out by his Catholic Majesty for the Purpose of making a Voyage round the World, provided they should arrive within the limits of this Government.

52. His Majesty's Pleasure upon this occasion has been communicated to your Governments of Fort St. George and Bombay, to the Superintendent of Prince of Wales Island and Deputy Governor of Fort Marlbro', and it has been notified also to your Supra Cargoes at Canton with a view to secure due Attention to his Catholic Majesty's Officers if they should visit China.

53. We forward to you, in the Packet of the Houghton, a Drawing of the Teek from a Tree in the Company's Garden, with some Seeds, an Extract of a Letter from the Superintendent, containing his

Observations upon that Subject, and his Report of the Number of Plants of the Spanish American Nopal that have been raised under his Inspection from the Plant, which you sent out in 1789 by the Swallow from his Majesty's Garden at Kew. This Report evincing that the Propagation of the Cochineal Insect may be proceeded upon, we request you will procure and forward it to Bengal as soon as possible.

### Natives

54. In our Proceedings, noted in the Margin you will observe Letters addressed to the Governor General by the Munny Begum and

Consn. 7th April	Syed Reza Ally Cawn, informing his Lordship of
2nd April	the Death of the Nawab Ghalib Jung, Son of the
7th May	late Nawab Akhteram ud Dowla who had the Management and Superintendence of the Salary allowed by the Company for the Maintenance of the Latter's Discendants. Upon this event the Management of the Salary is claimed by Syed Reza Ally Cawn. His claim is supported by the Begum, and, it is conformable to the System observed in regard to the Family, on a former similar occasion, We have confirmed it in our Instructions to the Paymaster of the Nazamut Stipends, provided Syed Reza Ally shall conduct himself with Justice and kindness towards the Persons who are entitled to partake of it.

55. In this Place we think it proper to point out to you a letter, addressed very lately to the Governor General by

Consn. 9th May	the Munny Begum, in which she tenders a Loan of
	a Lac of Rupees, as an Indication of her Attachment to the Interest of the Company, at a time when She was given to Understand that pecuniary Assistance was wanted to Supply the Expences of the War. The Loan was declined by the Governor General as not immediately required, but his Lordship expressed in proper Terms his Sentiments of Satisfaction at the liberal offer which the Begum had made.

56. A part of the Correspondence deposited in the Office of the Resident at Benares and required to be transmitted to your Hon'ble Court, in the 32d. Para : of your Letter of the 20th August 1788, makes a Number in the present Dispatch. The Resident acquaints us that the remainder is complete but as it is Voluminous he has thought it adviseable to prepare Indexes to render Reference to it as easy as possible and with that view He has detained it but He is in hopes of finishing the whole in Time to be forwarded to you in the next Packet.

Answer to the General Letter dated the 19th March 1790

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|---|---|
| <p>3 (Para 1) Date of last Advices sent<br/>(2.) Date of last Advices received</p>  | <p>} Require no Answer</p>  |
| <p>4 (Para 3) Allowing Dollars to be sent out to the different Presidencies, under certain Conditions</p>   | <p>This Paragraph has been communicated to our Accountant General, and the Collector of the Customs whose Duty it will be to see that the Conditions are properly attended to when Dollars are imported in your Ships</p>   |
| <p>5 (Para 4@10) Mentioning Bengal Servants, who are permitted to return to this Establishment, and Free Mariners &amp; others, who are allowed to proceed to India</p> | <p>Do not require any Answer</p>  |
| <p>6 (Para 11 12) Notifying a Resolution to Appoint thirty two Writers and giving Directions as to the Mode of employing them on their Arrival Consa 10th Sep'r</p>     | <p>These Paragraphs were published in the Gazette for the Information of the Heads of Offices and Departments at the Presidency, and on the 10th of September we made some Regulations with a view to meet the purposes mentioned in the 11th Paragraph, A Copy of them will be sent by this Packet</p> |
| <p>7 (Para 13) Return of Mr James Miller Directions in his favour when Stations suitable to his Abilities and rank fall vacant</p>                                      | <p>Does not require any Answer at present</p>   |
| <p>8 (Para 14) Regarding the Purchase of Mr Keirs House</p>   | <p>The use that we may make of the Discretion given to us in this Paragraph will be notified to you in our future Advices We have received a Letter from Mr Keirs Attorney, acquainting us with the Instructions they have been furnished with by their Constituents</p>                                |

to enable them to convey the property to the Company, (Consn, 20th October) and we shall have it before us when we pass our Decision on the Subject of it.

Answer to the General Letter dated the 28th April, 1790

9. (Para. 1.) Date of last Advices. Does not require any Answer.
10. (Para. 2.) Names of the Writers already Appointed, Thirteen in Number. We have informed the Gentlemen who were in Bengal of the Appointment you have been pleased to confer on them and shall return their Covenants duly executed as soon as possible.
11. (Para. 3.4.) Free Mariners &c. who are allowed to proceed to India. Does not require any Answer.
12. (Para. 5.) Applying for the 12th Sheet of Lieutt. Colonel Call's General Map of India. We beg leave to refer you to the 19th Paragraph of our Letter of 6th of January 1790, and to the Box mentioned in it, which was forwarded Per Busbridge, and contained a Complete Copy of the General Map prepared under the Orders of Lieutenant Colonel Call.
13. (Para. 6.) Will send a List of Civil Servants permitted to Return &c. Does not require any Answer.
14. (Para. 7.) Repeat a recommendation of Mr. Robert Gregory. We must freely confess that the contents of this Paragraph have, between a desire to comply at all times with your directions, and an attention to our real interests put us under considerable embarrassment.
15. We have never heard any Imputation against Mr. Gregory's moral Character; but, altho' his name

has long stood in the list of your Civil Servants, we have no reason to believe that He has acquired any experience either in your Revenue or Commercial Departments; And the manner, in which He has spent the last seven years at Lucknow, without a public Appointment, or (as we have been informed) without being engaged in private commercial pursuits, has manifested a very uncommon degree of indolence of disposition, We think it our duty to declare that we cannot at present consider him as properly qualified to hold any Office of trust and responsibility proportioned to his standing in your Service.

16. (Para. 8. @ 21.) Noticing different Paragraphs in Letters from Bengal, which either do not require particular Directions in reply or will be considered hereafter.

Do not require any Answer.

17. (Para. 22. @ 23.) On the Subject of Stationery.

These Paragraphs are referred to the Consideration of your Secretary and Accountant General who have had Instruction to lay before us such propositions on the Subject of Stationery, as are adapted to the Actual Circumstances of the existing Contract with Mr. Campbell, which we mentioned in our Dispatches P. Houghton, (Para. 46.) and will meet as nearly as possible the Wishes and Directions of your Hon'ble Court.

18. Your Sentiments, as conveyed in the Paragraphs 26 & 27;  
 Consn. 15th Sept. have been communicated to the Board of Trade.  
 27th Oct. The imports of stationery this Season by the Hawke.  
 28th Oct. Warren Hastings, and Foulis are under Examination

by Mr. Foley, of your Civil Service, attended in it by an Assistant in the Accountant General's Office, who has often been employed in that Duty, and will conduct it in the presence of the Purser of the Ships.

19. (Para. 34.) Explaining the Reason of not transmitting some Part Fire Paper last year, which will be forwarded this Season with some Paper for Bills of Exchange. This Paragraph has been Communicated to the Accountant General.
20. (Para. 35, 36, 37,) Noticing Paragraphs which have either been replied to, or do not require any Answer. Do not require any Answer.
21. (Para. 38.) Allowing a Remission of the Import Duties collected from the Commanders and Officers who arrived from India in 1789. This Paragraph was communicated to the Board of Revenue, who have given Orders to Custom Master to Comply with the Directions Contained in it.
22. (Para. 39) Approve the Assistance afforded to the Madras Presidency for the Provision of an Investment. Does not require any Answer.
23. (Para. 40 @ 45) Noticing Paragraphs, which either do not require replies, or will be taken up in the Political and Commercial Departments. Do not require any Answer.

25. (Para. 47) Will notify the Amount of your annual Consignments to Canton. Does not require any Answer.
26. (Para. 48) Commend our attention to the Canton Supplies, as advised in our Letter of the 10th August 1789. Does not require any Answer.
27. (Para. 49.) Wait for further Information, before you decide on the Subject of Mr. Bruere's China Remittances. After writing to you by the Swallow in 1789, we received Subject of an Answer from Mr. Bruere's Trustees to the Requisition which had been repeated to them, and we forwarded it, with the Statements which had been furnished, to your Accountant General (Vide Consn. 22nd. Sept. 1788; 29th July 1789; 2nd Sept. 1789). The Subject has not come before us since that Time; but we propose to resume the Consideration of it, after the Departure of the Princess Amelia, and shall acquaint you with the Result by an early Opportunity.
28. (Para. 50.) Pleased at our orders and the Accountant General's Exertions respecting the General Books of 1787/8 and 1788/9. This Paragraph has been communicated to the Accountant General.
29. (Para. 51 @ 58) Noticing Paragraphs from Bengal, of Information upon various Subjects which meet your Approbation, but do not require particular replies. Do not require any Answer.
30. (Para. 59) Will notice the Expence of the new Pilot Schooners sent from Bombay, in your Letters to that Government. Does not require any Answer,

31. (Para. 60.61) Soundings of the Bengal River and Recommendation of Mr. Andrew Wood. Do not require any Answer.
32. (Para. 62). Approve the Attention of the Governor General to the Restrictions of Parliament, respecting Appointments to be held by Junior Servants. This Paragraph has been communicated to the Governor General.
33. (Para. 63) Mr. Plowden's Resignation.  
(64) Law Proceedings under Consideration.  
(65-66) Register of Natives. } Do not require any Answer.
34. (Para. 67) Approve the Compilation prepared by Sir William Jones of the Digest of Hindoo and Mahamedan Laws.



July 1790. 43.44. 45 (Para.)  
and in the Sequel of this Letter  
we shall bring to your Notice  
such Orders upon this Subject  
as have been since passed.

37. (Para. 87 & 96) Noticing Paragraphs, which require no immediate Directions or [are] to be replied to in the Political Department. Do not require any Answer.
38. (Para. 97) On the Appointment of Mr. Marsh to make researches into the Mineral, Vegetable and Animal Productions of Sylhet. The Appointment of Mr. Marsh having taken place at the Instance of Lieutt. Colonel Kyd, under whose Instructions he is now Acting, We have transmitted your Directions to that Gentleman, and have desired him to furnish us with Copies of Mr. Marsh's Reports from Time to Time, that they may be forwarded to your Hon'ble Court. We beg leave also to refer you to the Communication already made on this Subject in the 69th Para. of our Letter of the 5th of November 1789.
39. (Para. 98) Directing that Lieutenant Colonel Kyd's Ground contiguous to the Botanical Garden may be Valued and the Amount to be discharged. This Paragraph was communicated to Lieutt. Colonel Kyd, whose Letter on the Subject of it makes a Number in the present Dispatch. You will Observe that Colonel Kyd does not admit his Pretensions to the Remuneration you have ordered to be made to him but approves of the valuation of his Ground in the mode you have been pleased to direct. We have accordingly instructed the Board of Revenue (Constn. 6th October.) to employ proper People upon it.

40. (Para. 99. @ 111) Noticing Paragraphs from hence containing Information, but requiring no particular Orders in Reply. Do not require any Answer.

41. (Para. 112.) Respecting the Establishment of the Western Dawke, and the Expence attending it.

Our Advices, subsequent to the 10th of August, 1789 (General Letters 1789, 5th Novr. Para 46; 1790, 13th Feby. Para. 6; 1790, 12th Apl. Para. 12.; 1790 31st July Para. 47.48), have furnished every information on this Subject that you are in want of and to these we beg leave to refer. The Alteration in the Route of the Dawke between Calcutta & Balasore, as noticed to you in our Letter of the 31st of July 1790 Pr. Houghton (Para 4) (Consn. 27th August.) has contributed much to the Quick Passage of the Mails between the Presidencies of Bengal & Madras & The Expence of the Separate Dawk established for this Purpose between Midnapore and Tumlook (Consn. 22d. Octr.) is very small It varies according to the Seasons of the year.

44. (Para. 131.) In Answer to the reference in the Resolutions upon the last Report of the Committee for investigating outstanding Balances, under the Head of Charges "French Prisoners". Does not require any Answer.
45. (Para. 132. @ 144.) Noticing Paragraphs, the Subjects of which are Approved, or require no Replies. Do not require any Answer.
46. (Para. 145.) Adjustment of Mr. Tyler's Rice Contract. We have postponed for the present a Consideration of this Paragraph after furnishing Mr. Tyler with a Copy of it according to an Application that he made to us.
47. (Para 146) Approving the Gratuity to Mr Forster. Will consider the propriety of publishing Mr Forster's Book This Paragraph has been notified to to Mr. Forster.
48. (Para 147 @ 158) Noticing several Paragraphs of Information, but none requiring to be replied to particularly. Do not require any Answer.
49. (Para. 159) The Nabobs of Oude & Bengal to be informed of his Majesty's Gracious Reception of their Congratulations on his recovery. This Paragraph was communicated to the Governor General, that the Nabobs of Oude and Bengal might be written to by his Lordship on the Subject of it.
50. (Para. 160.) Sentiments of Coja Cacheek's Liberality. Will send him his Majesty's Picture. This Paragraph has been also communicated to the Governor General And we have requested his Lordship, As Coja Cacheek Arakeel is no longer living, to inform the principal of his family of the

sense you entertain of the Instance of Generosity and Benevolence exhibited by Cojah' Cacheek on the Celebration of his Majesty's Recovery. We shall desire that his Majesty's Picture, intended for Coja Cacheek, may, on its Arrival, be presented to his family to remain with them and an Acknowledgement of the Signal Mark of Attachment shewn in this Instance by Coja Cacheek to the British Nation.

51. (Para. 161.) State of the Treasury. Does not require any Reply.
52. Para. 162.163) Names of of the Secret Committee, and Committee of Secrecy. Their Orders to be obeyed. The Directions contained in these Paragraphs will be duly attended to.
53. (Para. 164) Select Committee of Supra Cargoes  
(165.) Supra Cargoes  
(166.) Mr. C. Taylor Allowed to Return. } Do not require any Answer.
54. (Para. 167.) Leave it to Lord Cornwallis to Appoint an Advocate General on the Death, Resignation, or coming away of Mr. Davies. We gave Orders that a Copy of this Paragraph should be delivered to Lord Cornwallis.
- Answer to the General Letter dated the 19 May 1790
55. (Para. 1.) Acknowledging the General Letter on the Subject of Establishments. Some recommendations to be submitted to Parliament and the General Court Will Reply to it next Season. Does not require any Answer

56. (Para. 2.3.4.5.6.) Suggestions respecting a reduction of the Military Establishments, Affairs in India & Europe being much changed since they were formed. These Paragraphs have been referred to the Governor General.
57. (Para. 7.) Reward of Cr. Rs. 30,000 to Mr. Davies. Your Approbation of Mr. Davies's Diligence and Attention in your Affairs has been communicated to that Gentleman, and We have granted him an Order upon our Treasury for the Reward conceded to him on that Account.
58. (Para. 8.) Mr. Prinsep allowed to return. Does not require any Answer.
59. (Para. 9.) Allow Bills to be drawn for Payments into our Treasury of Subscription to the Marine Society. In our *Proceedings of the 20th* of October you will find a Letter addressed to Lord Cornwallis by the Secretary to the Marine Society, on the Subject of Subscriptions to that Institution. This Letter has been published in the Gazette, with your Sentiments and Directions, as conveyed in this Paragraph, and we have given the necessary Orders to our Sub Treasurer and Accountant General, in respect to the Rect. of Subscriptions, and the Bills to be drawn in consequence.
60. (Para. 10.) Have received our Advices Pr. Rose and Busbridge.  
(Para. 11.) Notify the Appointment of Sir Alexander Seton to be a Writer. } Do not require any Answer.

## Canton

61. Our last Advices, Pr. Houghton, contained such Information as we were enabled to afford on the Subject of Remittances to China. It may not, however, be improper to mention here that we have reason to imagine that the Authority We have given to your Supra Cargoes,

Consn. 6th August  
20th August

to draw upon us, will be made use of to some Extent, as Enquiries have been made of us, in two Instances, which you will see in our Proceedings, whether Money would be received into your Treasury, at Canton, and at what Rate & Periods of Payment Bills would be granted on this Government in Return.

62. We think it necessary to Observe that a Representation has been received from Captain Lloyd, thro' his Agents Messrs. Colvins Bazett, of the bad Quality of the Patna Opium Consn 8th Sept. purchased at the Sales last year which is said to have been rejected at Batavia. Captain Lloyd appears to expect an Indemnification for his Losses in Consequence, and He, as well as his Agents, (who are also under Engagements for remittances to your Supra Cargoes,) have intimated to us a possibility of some deficiency in the Completion of their Engagements, on that Account.

63. This representation, from Captain Lloyd, of the bad Quality of the Patna Opium was referred to the Preparer of Reports (who Acts as Superintendent of the Sales); Instructions to submit to Government all the Information that He Consn. 8th Sept. Consn. 15th Sept. possessed, concerning the Examination and Quality of the Opium complained of His Answer clearly evinced that Captain Lloyd's Expectations could not be attended to, for the Opium (Tho' it had not been usual, of late years, to examine it previous or subsequent to its Delivery at the Khalsa by the Contractors) was submitted in Samples to the Inspection of the Purchasers at the time of Sales and no Objection whatever was then made to its Quality, either by Captain Lloyd or any other Person; & Captain Lloyd has not even intimated, in his Representation that the Opium, which he received, was of an inferior Quality to that of the Sample produced.

#### Fort St. George

64. In Consequence of our Directions of the 25th of June (which are noticed to you in the 17th Paragraph of our Letter by the Houghton), the Government of Madras published an Advertisement for a Loan from Individuals to the Amount under the Conditions we had authorized; but they acquainted us, soon afterwards that the Tenders made did not exceed Pagodas 25, 000; and as They were Apprehensive that further Sums, to any considerable Amount would not be tendered at the Interest fixed of 10 P. Cent They suggested the Expediency of Allowing an Increase to it of 2 P. Cent, which They supposed would produce Offers of four or five Lacs of Pagodas, or more, as might be required.

65. As Inducements to warrant the Measure your Government of Fort St. George urged to us the pressing Exigencies of their Situation, and the important Military objects to be accomplished, and They stated that, without the Aid of such a Temporary Loan, Difficulty and Embarrassments were to be apprehended in respect to their Finances. Our Answer sanctioned the Increase in the Rate of Interest; and we trust that, considering all the Circumstances, it will receive the Approbation of your Hon'ble Court.

66. We furnished you, in our Dispatches by the Houghton with Statements of the Supplies which We had reason to suppose had been realized at Fort St. George of the 31st of January 1790. But from those Statements some Deduction is now to be made, owing to a failure in a part of Mr. Tylers Engagements, for which Reasons have been Assigned in the Correspondence with his Agents; who have solicited Indulgence as to Time. The subject is referred to us by the Government of Fort St. George and is under Consideration.

67. A supply of Cash, to the Amount, of Sicca Rupees 1,10,000 has been lately delivered at Fort St. George from his Majesty's Ship Ariel, and appropriated as a Remittance to that Government. You will hear further from us upon this Subject from the Foreign Department. Bills have been also continually drawn upon us from Madras, and duly honoured. But as the Demands upon our Treasury for the Payment of these as well as of the Bombay Bills, have exceeded the means which we have been able to command for their Discharge; and as the utmost Punctuality in the future Payments of such Bills will very probably not be in our Power, We have apprized both Governments of the Circumstance, that the Receivers of their Drafts may not be disappointed, & we have suggested to them the propriety of drawing their Bills, in future, expressly subject to certain Conditions as to the period of their Discharge.

68. We beg leave to point out to your Notice a Plan remitted to us by Mr. J. Hamilton (formerly an Officer in his Majesty's Navy, and long settled at Coinga as a Merchant) for procuring Teak Timbers from the Rajamundry Forests, for the Supply of this part of India. The Object being of Considerable public utility, and the Assistance he required to carry it into Execution Appearing reasonable, we have recommended it to the favourable Notice of your Government of Fort St. George, that He may receive their protection; and be exempted from the Taxes

and Impositions levied by the Petty Rajahs and Zemindars in transporting Timbers down the Rivers thro' their Possessions, if no material Objection should occur to them against the Plan, which Mr. Hamilton laid before us.

69. In Consequence of a Representation from Mr. John Beauland, that He had actually consigned to Fort St. George, by different Ships, Cargoes of Rice exceeding the Quantity to Consn. 20th Octr. be delivered at that Presidency on account of his Contract, and in sufficient Time to complete it, but that the Vessels had unfortunately not reached their destined port at the expected Period, We have permitted your Government of Fort St. George to take the deficient Quantity as the Vessels may arrive.

70. You will receive, in the Packet of the Princess Amelia, an Agreement entered into with the Government of Fort St. George, by the Commander and Officers of the Ship Queen, to pay in England to your Hon'ble Court, The amount which appears to be due from them for Import Duties in Goods landed at Madras.

#### Bombay

71. You will receive in this Packet Copies of the Contracts which we have entered into with Captain William Richardson for delivering 5,000 Bags of Rice at Tellicherry, or other Places on the Malabar Coast, and with Mr. Gilmore and Mr. Mair for delivering a Supply at Bombay.

Mr. Gilmore 25,000 Bags.

Mr. Mair. 125,000.

72. These Contracts had been publicly advertized for, and were assigned to the lowest proposers, whose Musters of Rice were of the Quality required, and whose Securities were deemed eligible. The Offers of Contract for the Tellicherry Supply which was provided in consequence of an Application from Major General Abercromby to Lord Cornwallis, were considered and decided upon, on the 1st of September, the day on which it happened that we found ourselves required to advertize for delivering a large Quantity of Rice, as above-mentioned, at Bombay, in consequence of a pressing Solicitation recently received from the Government. This Demand, for which Tonnage must of course be provided by the Contractors, whoever they might be, occasioned an immediate Rise in the Charge for Freight; so that Captain Richardson who had proposed for the Tellicherry Contract, in the Expectation of procuring Tonnage at the Rate at which it stood at that Time was obliged, under different Circumstances, to desire some Indulgence; and he stated various Ways in which it might be granted.



73. After full Enquiry and a Conviction that Captain Richardson's Expectations were reasonable, We agreed to Afford him relief; and in doing so, We thought it most advantageous for the Interests of the Company, and most fair to the Individual, that, instead of deciding at once, and without Rule that a certain Increase should be allowed on the Terms of his Contract, we should promise him the Medium Rate that might be settled with the Contractors for the Supplies to Bombay, when their Proposals were received, for it was not at Tellicherry only that Captain Richardson was subject to deliver his Rice, but he was subject to deliver it at any Place on the Malabar Coast, to which he might be directed by the Resident and Factors or by the Orders of the Bombay Government.

74. Our Proceedings, to which we refer, contain all the Letters and Resolutions that have passed concerning these Contracts, upon which we have only further to observe that they must afford a large and most acceptable Supply on the Malabar Coast, which for some weeks past, especially in the Neighbourhood of Bombay and Salsette, has been greatly distressed by a Scarcity of Grain.

75. Our Consultations will bring before you an Opinion delivered by your Advocate General upon a Question Submitted by Major General Abercromby to Lord Cornwallis. It was, whether, in the Absence of the Governors of Fort St. George or Bombay, from either of those Presidencies, on the public Service, the Place of a third Member of Government was to be supplied in the Sessions and at the Court of Appeals, during the Period of such Absence, and in what manner.

76. Our Correspondence with your Government of Bombay and Resident at Benares, respecting Remittances to that Presidency in the Current year, will be found in our Proceedings of the Dates annexed. These Supplies, you will observe have been very large; but it was incumbent upon us to provide sufficiently, and to the utmost of our Power, for the Wants of that Presidency, and we hope that the Payments to be made thro' the Houses of Bowany Doss, and Munohur Doss, the Successors to the Concerns of Gopaul Doss, for another year, for the certain Amount of three Lacks Monthly, after the 1st of December and under a Promise to exert themselves to supply a larger Sum, if it should be wanted, will preclude the least Embarrassment or Difficulty at Bombay as to Funds for carrying on the public Service.

## Fort Marlbro'

77. We have not had any Communication or Correspondence with the Residency at Fort Marlbro', since the Departure of the Houghton. We are happy however to inform you that our Advices from Fort St. George Notified some Time Ago the Arrival at Masulipatam of the Remainder of the Sepoys that were sent to Bencoolen in the Lord Macartney, and that an Indiaman of the present Season would be Ordered to call there for the purpose of bringing them to Bengal. This Service was allotted to the Queen. The subsidiary Papers referred to in the Fort Marlbro' Letter of the 19th April 1790 being now arrived, We shall take them into Consideration after the Princess Amelia is Dispatched.

Fort Marlbro'  
Sept. Consn. 6th  
August,  
Consn. 3d Novr.

## Prince of Wales Island

78. Our Proceedings, noted in the Margin, contain the latest Intelligence we have from your Settlement at Prince of Wales Island.

Sept. Consn. 6th  
& 27th August  
6th Octr.

79. The present Condition of the Stockade Fort has induced Captain Light to propose that a small Fortification may be authorized, for the Defence of the Place during the Contentions that exist among his Neighbours, least these should be extended to Prince of Wales Island; and we shall probably allow it if it can be made at a small Expence.

## Andamans

80. The State of your Settlement, and the Occurrences, at the Andamans, since we last addressed you, are fully set forth in Captain Blair's Letters, which are recorded in our Consultations of the 20th of August and 22d of September. We have received his General Chart of the Whole Island of Great Andaman, his Plan of Port Cornwallis, and the other Papers referred to in his Letter, and, have given him such General Directions for his Guidance, and furnished him with such supplies of money and Stores to Answer his present Wants, as the immediate Occasions required.

Consn. 20th Aug.  
22d. Sept.  
6th Octr.  
3rd. Novr

## Accounts, Audits &amp;c

81. The Original Register of Civil Servants at this Presidency with the Account of Establishments of the Civil Department, as stood on the 30th of April 1790, were forwarded to you in the Packet of the Houghton. We shall submit in this dispatch the copy of a Letter

Consn. 20th Aug.

received from our Civil Auditor in whose Province it is to prepare them, explaining his reasons for exhibiting the Commercial Establishments in a mode rather different from that Observed last year.

82. In consequence of the 2d Declaration mentioned to you in the 35th Paragraph of our Letter by the Houghton as having been made to the Public that the Interest on Certificates Consn. 8th & 29th Sept. or Promissory Notes should be paid annually in the same manner as Bonds, until the Principal could be discharged in Rotation, this rule has been carried into Effect, since the 1st of October, and such Regulations, as were deemed necessary, to make these Payments with the least Inconvenience to the Officers of Government and Individuals, have been adopted, and published in the Gazette, to these We beg leave to refer.

83. As the available Surplus of the Revenues of Government might not be sufficient, after the 31st of Jany 1791, to afford the Means of fulfilling, with punctuality any future Engagements for Loans taken up on Promissory Notes for four Months, at an Interest of 12 P. cent P. Annum, We thought it Adviseable to prohibit the Sub-Treasurer from receiving any Loans that might be tendered for that Period after the 30th of September, but we instructed him to Accept any that might be offered, at the same Rate of Interest, for any longer period so that they might not become payable between the 31st of January and 1st of October 1791.

#### Company's Servants

84. A List of the Appointments, that have taken place in this Department, since the Departure of the Houghton will make a number in the Present Dispatch. You will observe that they consist chiefly of the Nomination of the Writers, who arrived in the Ships of this Season, to public Offices.

85. Mr. John Bennet Burgess, of our Civil Establishment, has been permitted to resign your Service and proceed to Europe in the Princess Amelia. Ill Health, of which he produced a Consn. 20th Octr. Certificate, has compelled him to take that Step, in the Hope of benefiting by a Change of climate, in which Event he proposes to solicit Restoration to his rank upon this Establishment; and We beg leave to recommend that his Application may be complied with.

86. Mr. Thomas Graham (whose station in your Service precluded Him,) according to our Regulations (with many other Gentlemen, from being concerned in Houses of Agency &c.) having stated to the

Governor General the absolute Impossibility, owing to various Circumstances, of Adjusting his Numerous Accounts, except with considerable Loss, Within the period prescribed to him for closing them. We were induced to Assent to an Application from Mr. Graham for Leave to continue in the House of Agency until the End of October.

### Mint

87. All that has passed on the Subject of the new Coinage, since our Advices under this Head, Pr. Houghton, (Para 43, 44 & 45.) will appear on our Proceedings Noted in the Margin.

Consd. 1st Sept. Unforeseen Circumstances were stated by the Mint Master to have delayed the Commencement of the Gold Coinage for a few Days; but these were easily remedied & the Silver Coinage has also been begun upon. We were under the necessity, however, of allowing the Old Mode of Coinage to be continued for some Time until there should be a Certainty of carrying on the Business of the Coinage by the New mode to its full Extent, so that no Interruption or unnecessary Delay might take place, to the Injury of the Merchants and Shroffs, & that a free Importation of Bullion might not be prevented.

88. We are happy to add, upon this Subject, that the new mints at Dacca & Patna are in great forwardness. Their Establishments have been fixed. They remain under the Charge of

Consd. 1st Oct. Assay Masters, whose Services in promoting the Business have been rewarded with small Gratuities and who are now employed with Settled Salaries, under the immediate Orders of the Mint Master at Calcutta.

### Natives

89. We have again taken into Consideration the Measure adopted, in Consequence of your Instructions of the 21st of July 1786, for providing for the Support and Dignity of the Nabob Mobareck ul Dowla, with due Attention to his Highness's real Situation, and the Embarrassments of the Company's Affairs.

requisite Information was conveyed in a Letter addressed by the Governor General to the Nabob. Copies of his Lordship's Minute, of the Resolutions passed upon it, and of the Letter to the Nabob will be sent Numbers in the Packet with a Copy of the Instructions to Mr. Harington, the Pay-master of the Nizamut Stipends.

91. In our Proceedings, of the 15th of September, you will Observe a Resolution, which we passed, upon a reference, made to us by the Paymaster of Nizamut Stipends, of Claims preferred to a portion of a Stipends, standing on the Nizamut Establishment in the name of Rajah Dirjnarain. We have appropriated it in such Manner as appeared to us consistent with a due attention to Justice.

92. At the request of Nuffee-Zul-Nessa Beegum, the Sister of the Nawab Meer Mahomed Jaffier Cawn, We have permitted the Monthly Allowance, which stands in her name, and was  
*Consn. 3d Novr.* appropriated to the Support of herself and her sons, to be transferred to her Grandson, Syed Zaffir Ally Khan. We have however thought it proper to direct, with a View of guarding against Accidents, that the Receipts of Syed Zuffar Ally Khan to the Pay master of Nizamut Stipends shall be accompanied by proper Vouchers from those, who are to receive from him the Pensions, which they heretofore received from the Begum.

#### Miscellaneous

93. An application having been made to us by the Managers of the Orphan Society for Bills upon your Hon'ble Court to the Amount of Ct. Rs. 10,000, to enable them to make a Remittance  
*Consn. 20th Aug.* of that Sum to England for the purpose of defraying the Expence of the Institution there, We directed the same to be complied with, as usual, previous to the Sailing of the Houghton.

94. Mr. Oswald Dykes Jackson, and Mr. Henry Pine Europeans, who have no Licence to remain in India have received our Orders to return to Europe in the early Ships of this Season.  
*Consn. 20th Aug.* The former was lately tried in the Supreme Court of Judicature for a Murder, and, tho' he was acquitted, the Circumstances, that appeared on the Trial, obliged us to consider him as an improper Person to continue in India: The latter (Mr. Pyne) was also tried by the same Tribunal for  
*Consn. 15th Sept.* an Assault committed at Chittagong, and tho' the facts were not established in Evidence, We have thought, from his general bad Character and mode of Behaviour, which the Correspondence, noted, in the Margin, between the Governor General and the Magistrate at Chittagong, exhibits, That he should not be indulged with Permission to remain in this country

95. In further Promotion of the Objects of the Institution of a Free School, of which you were Advised in the 22d Paragraph of our Letter by the Chesterfield, We have complied  
*Consn. 1st October* with a request from the Governors of the Society, by making them an Allowance of C.Rs. 60. Per Mensem for the purpose of employing Moonshees capable of teaching the Native Languages to the Children. The Funds of the Society were stated to be unequal to this Expence, and Advantages may be expected to result from the Admission of it.

96. We beg Leave to point out to your Notice a Letter that has been addressed to us by Mr. Lambert, with a View of inducing us to Assist and Promote the Manufacture of Sugars  
*Consn. 8th Sept.* and Consequent Distilleries of Arrack in Bengal, by reducing or abolishing the Duties collected here, and at your other Presidencies upon those Articles. The Advantages to be expected, ultimately, from Speculations of this Nature by Individuals, and the Benefits received from them in some Degree during the late War, are stated by Mr. Lambert; and we have passed such Resolutions on the Subject as we hope will obtain sufficient Information to enable us to proceed to a final Decision upon it.

### Law

97. The Office of standing Council to the Hon'ble Company having been vacant by the Death of Mr. Simpson, Mr. William Burroughs has been retained in his Stead, at the recommendation of the Governor General.

Fort William 6th November, 1790, We have the Honor to be  
*[Per Princess Amelia]*

### State of the General Treasury the 6th November 1790

#### Ready Money

Gold Mohurs	18,164.2	2,90,338	3,36,792.1.4
Siccas	.	4,14,797.83	4,81,165.1.11
Copper Coin	68,832	2,151	2,495.2.7
			<hr/>
Bills receivable		2,30,343.9.9	8,20,452.5.10 2,67,198.9.4
			<hr/>
		Currt. Rupees	10,87,650.15.2
Balance Account Deposits			1,25,887.10.5
Balance Accountant General Mayor's Court			1,04,930.3.5

Balance Old Bond Debt on which the Interest has ceased by Public Advertisement. 36,102.3.2

Balance New Bond Debt . . . . . 1,15,95,683.12.5

Balance Madras Military Arrears . . . . . 34,09,173.12.6

Balance Bombay Ditto . . . . . 17,77,830.8.10

Loans taken up in 1790, 91 . . . . . 13,96,273.4.7

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4,84,45,881

Errors Excepted

F. Mury.

Sub Treasr.

14

## LETTER DATED 16 NOVEMBER 1790

*Sir Charles Oakley appointed Governor of Madras—Botanical Garden.*

HON'BLE Sirs,

1. We have the pleasure to acquaint you that the Swallow Packet arrived in Bengal on the 6th Instant, after having landed Sir Charles Oakley and Mr. Hudlestone at Fort St. George, where your Government was newly arranged on the 15th Ultimo according to the Orders contained in the 8th Paragraph of your Dispatches to that Presidency of the 3rd of June.

2. We received by the Swallow your Letter in this Department of the 3rd of June, with the Several Papers mentioned in the List of Packet.

Answer to the Public General Letter of the 3rd June

3. (Para. 1st) Date of last Dispatches.

(Para. 2.) General Meadows to succeed to this Government on the Death Resignation or Removal of Earl Cornwallis.

} Require no Answer.

Balance Account Deposits	1,25,887 10·5
Balance Accountant General Mayor's Court	1,04,930·3·5
Balance Old Bond Debt on which the Int. has ceased by Public Advertisement.	36,102·3·2
Balance New Bond Debt	1,14,54,776·8·2
Balance Madras Military Arrears	34,06,969·13·5
Balance Bombay Ditto	17,72,838·7·6
Balance Loans taken up in 1790, 91	14,40,959·7·3
	<hr/>
	1,83,42,463,11·2

## 15

## LETTER DATED 31 JANUARY 1791

*Madras loan—Tyler's case—rice contracts—supply of funds from Benares to Bombay—grain supply to Bombay—Prince of Wales Island—opium trade—sending of reinforcements—sugar plantation and manufacture of arrack at Benteerin—case of Freeth—specimens of cotton seed, rice and teak seed sent by Kyd—Nizam's stipends.*

TO The Hon'ble Court of Directors & co

Hon'ble Sirs.

1. We have the honor to transmit to you, by your Ship William Pitt, now under dispatch a Continuation of Proceedings Subsequent to those which were forwarded by the Princess Amelia and the other papers mentioned in the List of Packet.

Fort St. George

2. The Governor in Council at Fort St. George in a letter dated the 29th of October requested to know our Construction of that part of the 27th Section of the 24th of the King which relates to the Temporary appointment of a third Member of Council, when, by Certain Causes, the Members shall have been reduced to two, including the Governor or President. A Similar application is Noticed in our General Letter by the *Princess Amelia*, at having been made to us by



being a Second Time compelled to leave India for the same Cause, are fully set forth in his Letter, which we also transmit, with Attestations of his Abilities from the Collector of Shahabad, under whom He served and, Mr. Law, who had many Opportunities of becoming acquainted with his Merit. These Papers will we trust be sufficient to secure to Mr. Stonehouse his restoration to your Service as soon as his Health will allow him to return.

8. We have the Honor to forward to you by this Packet a Copy of a Letter from our Advocate General, expressive of his sense of Gratitude for the Solid Mark of favour conferred  
 Consn 10th Novr. upon him by your Orders of the 19th May—and his warmest and most respectful thanks for the very flattering Terms in which you have conferred it.

9. The Disappointment incurred last year by Government in the Loss of the Vessel which was expressly Dispatched to the Pacific Sea for Plants, of the Bread Fruit Tree<sup>1</sup>, has induced, the Superintendent of our Botanical Garden to prepare a Plant of it from the Stock now in our Possession. It will be conveyed to St. Helena by the *Princess Amelia*, and left there under Charge of the Governor, to be forwarded with other Plants by a later Ship, so as to secure their Arrival in England in the Summer Season.

10. A Copy of the Letter which Coll. Kyd addressed to us on the above Subject, mentioning also the late additions to the Collections under his Charge will be likewise sent a Number in the Packet with a List of the Articles in your Botanical Garden.

Fort Wm.

16th Novr. 90.

We have the Honor to be

[Per William Pitt]

State of the General Treasury the 16th November 1790

Ready Money

Gold Mohurs . . . . .	12,934.8	2,6952	2,40,064.5.1
Siccas . . . . .		5,08,059.11.3	5,89,349.4.2
Rupees of Sorts . . . . .	3,456	3,243.13.10	3,762.14.1
Copper Coin . . . . .	61,248	1,914	2,220.3.10

Bills Receivable . . . . .	99,911.12.3	8,35,396.11.2
		1,15,897.10.4
Currt. Rupees . . . . .		9,51,294.5.6

Balance Account Deposits	1,25,887 10-5
Balance Accountant General Mayor's Court	1,04,930-3-5
Balance Old Bond Debt on which the Int. has ceased by Public Advertisement.	36,102 3 2
Balance New Bond Debt	1,14,54,776-8 2
Balance Madras Military Arrears	34,06,969-13-5
Balance Bombay Ditto	17,72,838-7 6
Balance Loans taken up in 1790, 91	14,40,959 7-3
	<hr/> 1,83,42,463,11-2

## 15

## LETTER DATED 31 JANUARY 1791

*Madras loan—Tyler's case—rice contracts—supply of funds from Benares to Bombay—grain supply to Bombay—Prince of Wales Island—opium trade—sending of reinforcements—sugar plantation and manufacture of arrack at Benteerin—case of Freeth—specimens of cotton seed, rice and teak seed sent by Kyd—Nizamat stipends.*

TO The Hon'ble Court of Directors & co.

Hon'ble Sirs,

1. We have the honor to transmit to you, by your Ship William Pitt, now under dispatch a Continuation of Proceedings Subsequent to those which were forwarded by the Princess Amelia and the other papers mentioned in the List of Packet.

3. You will observe in our Consultation of the 24th of November a letter which we wrote to Madras on the Subject of the resources, which it might be in our power to appropriate in the course of the ensuing four or five Months to the discharge of the bills drawn upon us for that Presidency. We acquainted you by the *Princess Amelia* that a loan for bills to be granted on us had been opened at Fort St. George under our Sanction, and that on Account of the little Success with which the Advertizement for this loan had been attended, we had been induced to Authorize an increase of Interest from 10 to 12 per Cent.

4. To obviate however, the ill Consequences of Disappointment, if the loan, even upon these terms, could not be raised, and, with a View to Secure at all events timely supplies for the Support of the War, We thought it expedient to endeavour to obtain a loan in Bengal, and accordingly, opened our Treasury for that purpose. The Advertizement, which was issued, by our orders, on the Occasion, attends you a Number in the Packet, but as the effect of the measures we had then determined or would necessarily operate to diminish the Amount we should be able to appropriate to the discharge of the bills drawn on us by the Government of Fort St. George we engaged to furnish them with timely information of the Progress of the loan, so as to enable them to judge of the Amount remaining applicable to the payment of such bills.

5. In a letter from the Government of Fort St. George dated the 13th of November we were informed that the encrease of Interest from 10 to 12 Per Cent, on the loan opened at that Presidency had been so far successful, that about Pagodas 3,29,100 had been Subscribed tho' at the same time we heard, with concern, that bonds issued at this rate, had lately been offered to Sale by individuals at a discount of two and three per cent.

6. The Same letter takes notice of the difficulty experienced in procuring Money for drafts, as well as the very disadvantageous rate of exchange at which the pressing exigencies of the public Service had obliged the Madras Government to draw their bills. A proposal is also Noticed to furnish them with one Lack of Pagodas, but upon Conditions too extravagant to admit of their accepting of the offer.

7. In our dispatches by the *Princess Amelia*, we informed you of Mr. Tylers inability to fulfill his engagements, and of a reference to us by the Government of Fort St. George, of an application made to them by that Gentlemen's Agents soliciting the indulgence of further time. On

the 17th of November we called on our Accountant General for the Report on the particulars of Mr. Tyler's engagement and the extent to which they might have been executed, and we beg leave to refer you to the Proceedings Noted in the Margin, when that Report is entered with our Resolution upon it, extending the solicited indulgence to the 31st December 1790 after which period if the Money was not paid, the Law was to take its Course against Mr. Tyler's Securities.

8. We were however induced in consideration of the peculiar circumstances of hardship, and embarrassment in which he had been involved, and for a Statement of which by himself, we beg leave to refer you to his Letter recorded in the Proceedings of the 1st of December to grant a further extension of the abovementioned indulgence, for the additional period of One Month or until 31st January 1791, after which should his engagement still remain incomplete our Original resolution of the 24th November was to be carried into immediate effect.

9. On the 9th of December we received a letter from the Government of Fort St. George Acquainting us that owing to the unfavourable season the strongest apprehensions were entertained

Consn. 9th Dec. of a Scarcity of Grain, nearly if not absolutely, amounting to a famine in the Northern Circars, and apprizing us of the Measures they had found it expedient to adopt, for the Purpose of averting the dreaded evil. Previous however to these advices, we had determined, in consequences of an application made to us by the Chief and Council at Vizagapatam

Consn. 17th Decr. tam to order a supply of grain to that place, but the necessity for the measure was fortunately obviated by the exertions of individuals, whose importations (if we may judge from the Account laid before us) far exceeded, in extent, the Probable wants of the Inhabitants. We, however, thought it expedient to comply with the original application made to us by the Chief and Council at Vizagapatam, for six thousand bags of rice most of which was dispatched to them after the necessary tonnage for the reinforcements then going to Fort St. George had been provided.

10. By the Proceedings noted in the Margin it will appear that Mr. Mair, has not performed the Contract he had entered into for furnishing your Presidency of Madras with Rice, in

Consn. 29th Decr. a Manner Correspondent to his engagements. That a Gentleman had objected to the mode of execution by a Committee to which the grain Supplied by other Contractors had been subjected and to which Mr. Mairs own Agent at Madras had consented This mode of proceeding was pointed out by the

Consn. 20th Decr. Mr. Mairs Contract to the extract of which we beg leave to refer you, as entered on our Proceedings of 29th of December. Samples of Rice, &c.

the report of the Garrison Storekeeper at Fort St. George, to be of so indifferent a quality as to be liable to be rejected by the Troops in Garrison, have been transmitted to us for our inspection and Mr. Mait has had an opportunity afforded him of delivering in any explanations on the subject in his power as well of examining the Samples forwarded from Madras. Our further proceedings on this subject will be Notified to you by our next dispatches.

11. Mr. Beanland, another rice Contractor, appears also to have disappointed the Madras Government in the performance of his engagements, both respecting the insufficiency of his deliveries, and quality of the grain supplied. Under these Circumstances of failure the Government of Fort St. George thought proper to reject a quantity which was tendered by Mr. Beanland's agents at Madras, and to give them Notice that the deficiency would be remitted, and no further performance of the Contract exacted.

12. Besides the Consignments of Treasure dispatched to Fort St. George by every opportunity for the support of the War, the bills drawn upon us by that Presidency have been duly honoured, to the Amount of Ct. Rs. 68, 19, 736-10-2.

#### Bombay

13. In our General Letter by the Princess Amelia from this Department we Noticed the Arrangements which had been made by the Resident at Benares to supply, thro' the principal Commercial Houses at that Place, your Presidency at Bombay with sufficient funds for carrying on the War. These, we trust will be so ample as to preclude any Necessity for your Government of Bombay drawing bills on us for some time, and we hope that the Measures adopted by the house of Monohur Dass to enable their Agent at Bombay to execute with punctuality his Constituents engagements, as Noticed in the letter of the Resident at Benares recorded in our Proceedings of 17th November will be attended with the best effects.

14. It is with great satisfaction that we are enabled to inform you that the supplies of Grain furnished under the Contracts of which we apprized you by the Princess Amelia, have operated in a very considerable degree to the relief of the distress so severely felt on the Malabar Coast.

15. The employment of all the tonnage which could be procured for the purpose of conveying reinforcements of every kind to Madras, has been the means, in more than one instance of retarding the performance of engagements entered into by Contractors beyond the period agreed on. A

case of the Nature we are describing is that of Captain Richardson, to whom in consideration of the Circumstances stated in his Letter, recorded in the proceedings of the 14th Instant, we granted an extension of the period of delivering which he had Originally engaged for, from the 31st December 1790 to the end of February, for the delivery of rice at Tellicherry.

16. The Government of Bombay, apprehensive that the effects of the Scarcity might even extend to the ensuing Year, addressed us on the 10th November, requesting that we would

*Consn. 4th Decr.* either contract ourselves for the conveyance of two additional Lacs of Bags of grain, or admit of their advertising for proposals at that Presidency. This subject lay some time for consideration, and it is but lately that we have found ourselves at liberty (owing to the pressing demands for Tonnage for the

*Consn. 24th Decr.*  
*21st Decr.* Services of the War) to resolve on publishing an advertisement here, inviting proposals for the provision of the quantity required, as well as its conveyance to the Malabar Coast some time before the appearance of the Advertisement. Mr. Mair one of the Contractors for a former supply of grain to Bombay, addressed us, on the subject of his own Situation, and the injurious manner in which his interests were likely to be affected by the publication in question. He also urged Motives of a public Nature to induce us to depart from the Measure, but his arguments, of either description, did not appear to us sufficiently conclusive to convince us of the propriety of closing with the proposals of an individual without a previous Advertisement that which we thought proper to publish on this Occasion attends your Number in the Packet.

#### Prince of Wales Island

17. We have dispatched this year to the Superintendent of Prince of Wales Island 250 Chests of Opium to be disposed of on Account of the Company.

18. Enclosed you will receive Numbers in the Packet Copies of Letters, under date the 6th and 22d Ultimo from Captain Light, informing us of the alarm he had been under for the peace and Security of the Settlement, by the threatening appearance of large fleets of Malay Prows, which had been hovering about with an apparent intention to attack the Island; and requesting a reinforcement of two Companies of Sepoys, and ten Guns, with their proper Stores.

19. The importance of the Settlement having already been admitted in such extent, as made it necessary to give immediate attention to the dispatches, we lost no time in issuing the necessary orders for

preparing the reinforcement, which has been since embarked and sent away, and will, we hope, Arrive in time for the purpose intended in affording it.

20. We have transmitted Copies of Captain Lights Letters, and of a Minute from Mr. Stuart on the Subject of them, to the Governor General requesting his Lordship's opinion and Advice on some of the points Submitted to us by the Superintendent.

#### Andamans

21. Our last advices from the Andamans are dated the 2nd Instant, but contain nothing important.

22. The Sepoys and Artificers who first accompanied Captain Blair, having repeatedly applied to him to return to Bengal he requested that a relief might be sent to him, and this has accordingly been done.

#### Fort Marlbro'

23. In a Letter dated the 7th of October which we have received from your Deputy Governor and Council at Bencoolen, they acquainted us with the particulars of an Agreement they had entered into with Mr. Heram Cox for carrying on the works of a Sugar Plantation, and Arrack Manufactory at Banterem, the lease of which they had resumed, as the Chinese, who had rented it had failed in their engagements with the Company.

24. We considered this agreement very attentively, and, as the object of it is to enable the Company to realize from Mr. Cox's exertions, upon good Security, a very heavy balance incurred under the Conduct of the Chinese, and, in the event of Mr. Cox's Success, a future rent would be secured for the works without Subjecting you to the necessity of maintaining an expensive establishment of Slaves, hitherto employed at that place, we did not refuse our acquiescence in it, altho' we thought proper to Notice to your Deputy Governor and Council the disregard they had shewn to their Situation in respect to us, in having concluded an Agreement for so long a period as five years, without our sanction, or laying it before us in any way for our approval; We also expressed our hope that they would in future, pay a greater deference to the Controuling Authority of the Governor General in Council.

25. As the particulars of this transaction will be brought before you in the letter from the Deputy-Governor and Council to your Hon'ble Court, it is unnecessary for us to enter further on the Subject, in this place.

26. Mr. Joseph Freeth a Senior Merchant on the Bencoolen establishment, has been charged with an attempt to issue some forged Notes, by the means of a slave Boy at that Residency, and upon an examination, which took place at Fort Marlbro', the fact was proved Satisfactory to your Deputy Governor and Council. They therefore dismissed him from your Service, and sent him to this Presidency.

27. On His arrival here, we took into Consideration the Proceedings and papers relative to this affair and referred them to your Advocate General for his opinion, as to the Sufficiency of the proofs. and the necessary Measures to be adopted in consequence.

28. We transmit to you a Number in the Packet a Copy of the Advocate General's Letter to us on this Subject, in which he informed us that, clear and evident as the guilt of Mr. Freeth appeared, yet, from the want of the Necessary Steps having been taken upon sending him, and the forged Notes, here, he would most likely escape the punishment which his offence deserved and that if the trouble, difficulty, and expence of sending for the Witnesses from Bencoolen, and transporting Mr. Freeth and them to Madras, with the Probability there was that any steps that could now be taken would be ineffectual, should induce us to decline sending him there for his Trial, he might nevertheless be removed from this Country and ordered to take his Passage for Europe.

29. We have therefore deemed it altogether most proper to desire Mr. Freeth to leave this Country, and proceed to Europe, limiting his Stay in Bengal to the 10th of March, and We have apprized him that, if he should be here after that period, he will subject himself to be apprehended and otherwise treated as the power vested in us authorize and Warrant.

30. Mr. Freeth applied to us for leave to go to England by the way of Bencoolen in the *Foulis*, but as your Deputy Governor and Council particularly desired that he might not be allowed to return there, we refused to comply with his request.

31. We dispatched to their Presidency by the *Foulis*, agreeable to your Orders the quantity of flour for which they that before indented to your Hon'ble Court.

32. Estimating the value of the Opium consigned to Bencoolen, by the *Foulis*, at the Sale Price of 560 Rupees Pr. Chest, it will produce there Sa. Rs. 112,000, a Sum fully equal to the Supply they have required from us, and, as we are informed that Opium is in demand on the West Coast, we have no doubt of its meeting with a good Market



## Canton

33. We have the pleasure to acquaint you that in a letter dated the 10th of December, which we have lately received from your Supra Cargoes at Canton, we are advised that a part of our remittances in the last year had been realized, and that they expected the due discharge of every other engagement except Captain Canning for, as they were informed that it was his intention to be in China in September. and he had not arrived they were under some alarm for his safety at our Intelligence, here giving us reason to hope that no accident has happened to Captain Canning. We do not apprehend (well knowing his accustomed Punctuality) that the Supra Cargoes will be disappointed in the remittance thro' this Gentleman.

34. The usual Advertizement for a Remittance to Canton this year was issued, and we received proposals for a  
 Consn. 24th Decr. Supply of 26,30 000 Rupees.

35. Of this Amount Mr. Cuthbert Fenwick made an offer to the extent of Rupees 400,000 at the rate of 17 per Cent, lower than the lowest of the other proposers. We deemed it advisable, under the Circumstance of so great a difference, to require the unexceptionable Security, and as the knowledge we had of the persons he had proposed would not Warrant us in pronouncing them to be of this Description. We desired to know at what rate of exchange he would pay the whole or any part of his proposed remittance into the Canton Treasury under the Security of Company's paper.

36. This, however, Mr. Fenwick did not agree to, and his offer  
 Consn 17th Decr. were in consequence rejected. The other proposal amounting to Rupees 22,30,000 were accepted.

## Miscellaneous

37. In our proceeding of the date annexed you will observe reports  
 nra . 17th Novr. and statements furnished, in consequence of our requisition by the Governor in Council at Bombay, the Collector of Government Customs at Monjee, and the Custom Master at the Presidency of duties Collected on various articles principally Sugar of different species imported into these provinces, and we shall, for the present be satisfied with a sample reference to these papers reserving ourselves for a fuller Communication on the Subject to the period when we shall have determined on the Specific measures, with a view to which we called on the different officers abovementioned for the Statements in question.

38. We received, on the 10th Instant, a letter from Mr. Fairlie informing us that Mr. William Wroughton, late Collector of Momensing, and Resident for some time past at Sirampore, largely indebted to a Native, named Prawn Kissen Banderjee, who had obtained a judgement against him for the amount, in the Supreme Court of Judicature, had embarked on board the imperial Ship Fraulsmundroff commanded by Captain French with the intention of proceeding to Europe. Mr. Fairlie added to this information a request of the interference of Government to enforce the legal process which was about to be put in execution against Mr. Wroughton, in case, as was apprehended, violent means should be used to resist it.

39. We thought it necessary to comply [comply] so far with the request of Mr. Fairlie, as to send Orders to our Master Attendant of which Captain French had also Notice, to direct the Pilot to Moor the Fraulsmundroff in a place of safety, and to remain there till Mr. Wroughton should be delivered up to the Sheriff's Officers Commissioned to apprehend him.

40. Captain French (conceiving himself to be under the necessity of supporting the honor of the imperial flag) would not permit the Sheriffs Officer to execute the duty enjoined him, and the sheriff, in the next instance, made application to us to afford the support of Government to the Civil power. The opinion of the Advocate General (a Copy of which attends you number in the Packet appearing clearly to authorize such interference on our part, the limits of the port of Calcutta extending, according to his apprehension, to the Mouths of the River. We accordingly gave our assent to the Sheriff's requisition, and a force, deemed sufficient for the intended purpose, was ordered for embarkation on the morning of the 13th. but before it proceeded information was received from the Master Attendant that the Fraulsmundroff, had procured a Pilot from a Dutch vessel and discharged the English Pilot and that the Ship moved down the River so fast that there was no probability of reaching her before She cleared it the detachment was therefore Countermanded.

41. We cannot avoid taking Notice of Mr. Wroughtons proceeding to Europe under these discreditable Circumstances, and without our ultimate permission for his proceeding at all, and we trust that your Hon'ble Court will not only overlook such Instance of impropriety, but, for the sake of example at least, Manifest your displeasure at Mr. Wroughtons misconduct.

42. We have the honor to forward Numbers in the Packets Mr. Felvys reports on the Stationery, transmitted for the use of our Public Officers, and brought on the Ship's Warren Hastings, Hawke, and Foulis

43. Our Proceedings noted in the Margin contain an application made to us by the house of Messrs Fergusson Consn. 24th Decr. Fairlie and Co. for the Calcutta insurance office on the subject of the Madragada, a Portuguese Ship which had been freighted by Mr. Beanland on account of his Rice Contract and been seen, in the Month of April, in the straits of Malacca, where the Captain was disposing of the grain for his own benefit. Insurance on the Rice, laden on the Madragada having been made at the above-mentioned office and a deviation from the Voyage being evident, an order was requested to Mr. Light, the Superintendant of Prince of Wales Island, whether it appears that the Vessel was next to proceed with trading of Timber from Pegue, to enquire into the Circumstances of the case, and if he found them as represented to Seize the Captain and the Ship, that Justice might be afforded to the parties aggrieved.

44. The case being of such a nature that we did not think ourselves authorized to give our assent to the seizure of the Ship without the Sanction of legal authority, we directed the Company's Attorney to State the case, for the consideration of your standing Council, whose opinion did not justify such exertion of powers a Copy of Mr. Burroughs's Opinion will be sent a Number in the dispatch.

45. In our Proceedings of the 29th of December you will observe a representation of Elizabeth Faria to which we beg leave to refer you in consideration of the good Conduct and services of her late husband (which are fully attested by the officers under whom he served) we have agreed to allow her a pension of 50 Rupees Pr. Mensem to commence from the 1st of September.

46. We have the honor of transmitting to you in the Packet a Copy of a Letter from the Resident of Benares with Copies of the letters written from the office of that Residency from the period of the expulsion of Cheytsing to that of Mr. Duncan's taking charge being from October 1781 to September 1787.

47. Mr. John Newton having stated himself to have come out to his country, as an Officer in his Majesty's Sea Service, and to have been left home in Circumstances of Sickness and distress, we were induced to grant him a Charity party passage to Europe in one of the Company's Ships.

48. The Supreme Court of Judicature having, on the 7th December, made the usual Nomination of three persons, as properly qualified for the office of Sheriff for the ensuing year, Mr. Charles Fuller Martyn has been appointed thereunto the other two Gentlemen nominated by the Court were Messrs. Thomas Law and J. H. Harrington.

49. A Volume of Geographical and Astronomical remarks has been laid before us by Mr. Reubin Burrow for the purpose of its being forwarded to your Hon'ble Court, and we accordingly have taken the present Opportunity of complying with Mr. Burrow's application.

50. At the request of Lieutt. Colonel Kyd. we forward in the Packet Copy of a Letter from him referring to several Packages transmitted by the William Pitt, and containing Cotton Seeds of the most esteemed species the Produce of the Company's Provinces also Specimens of Rice of the finest quality from the Rohilla Country and teek seed from the Rajah Mundry frontier, where the tree is produced in the highest perfection. The above are accompanied by Specimens of live plants of the Leckee' and Mowah' intended for his Majesty's Botanical Garden at St. Vincents, and for propagation in the West India Islands should the Soil and Climate prove favourable for the Purpose.

#### Natives

51. In our dispatches, by the Princess Amelia, we informed your Hon'ble Court that, in Consequence of your Orders, we had taken into consideration the Situation of the Nabob Mobareck ud Dowlah and that a plan had been adopted by us, in consequence for the Settlement of his excellency's debts.

52. Our Proceedings of the 3rd. of December contain a letter from Mr. Harington, Paymaster of the Nizamut Stipends, and another from the Nabob to the Governor General in that  
 Consn 3rd Decr      letter his excellency remonstrates against the plan we had deemed it necessary to adopt on his honor and dignity. The letter which Lord Cornwallis wrote to the Nabob in reply is recorded on the same Consultation and, without entering on this subject more at large than is absolutely necessary, we may justly refer your Hon'ble Court to that reply, both for ample testimony of the unreasonableness of his excellency's objections and the Mature deliberation, which preceded the execution of the plan he disapproves.

53. Your Hon'ble Court will observe, in the Proceedings, of the date abovementioned, a proposition contained in the letter addressed to us by the paymaster of the Nizamut Stipends for the discharge of all the Monthly installments of the Nabobs Creditors (whatever might be their Amount) in equal proportions of Cash, and Certificates, in regard to those Current Rupees 400 per Mensem or upwards but that all Instalments for a less Sum should be paid wholly in Specie. We approved of the proposition and gave the necessary Order in consequence.

## Company's Servants

54. Mr. William Harding, late Civil Pay Master, having applied to us for permission to resign your Service, and  
 Consn. 16th Decr. laid before us the Certificates prescribed by the public regulations, we assented to his request and he provided [proceeded] to Europe on the Rodney. We transmit a Copy of Mr. Hardings Application a Number in the Packet, and entertaining a very high opinion of his honor, integrity, and abilities, we cannot but hope that if he should express a wish to return to Bengal, with his Rank on this Establishment it will be immediately complied with.

55. In consequence of the Vacancy occasioned by the Resignation of Mr. Harding, Mr. Foley has been appointed to the Office of Civil Paymaster. Previous thereto, in Consideration of the responsibility annexed to the office of Civil Pay Master, we determined to  
 Consn. 9th Decr. make it a standing order that the person appointed to this situation should furnish Security in the Sum of one Lac of Rupees, by a Bond Similar in its conditions to that which is entered into by the Pay Masters of the Army.

56. Mr. David Cumming a Senior Merchant in your service having requested permission to return to Europe his application was complied with.

## Country Powers

57. In our Proceedings of the 3rd of December, a letter is  
 Consn. 3rd Decr. recorded from the king of Tringano to the Governor General informing his Lordship of a liberal Act done by the king in ransoming five Englishmen, who were supposed to have been lost in the wreck of the Vansittart and were lately found near his Country his attention on this occasion highly merited our acknowledgements, and as it indicated his merchant [penchant] to the British Nation Mr. Stuart in answering the king of Tringano's letter expressed a due sence [sic] of his attention, and orders were given for preparing some small presents to be sent to him, when an opportunity offered.

58. The State of our Treaury is as follows.

Ready Money			
Gold Mohurs	11,274,72-0-0	180,390-0-0	209,253-9-0
Siccas		130,04,691-9	15,13,442-3-3
Rupees of Sorts.	10,784-0-0	9,549-5-4	11,077-3-7
Copper Coin	58,496-0-0	1,828-0-0	2,120-7-8
Bills Receivable		75,657-3-3	87,762-5-8
		Current Rupees	18,23,655-13-2

Unsorted Treasure		396,160-5
Balance Account deposits	125,594-10-5	
„ Accountant Gen. Mayors Court	1,04,930-3-5	
„ Old Bond debt on which the Interest has ceased by pub- lic Advertisement	36,102-0-2	
„ New Bond debt	113,87,486-6-3	
„ Madras Military Arrears	31,33,243-7-10	
„ Bombay Do. Do.	17,66,593-6-8	
„ Loans taken up in 1790/91	12,45,997-8-3	
		<hr/> 1,77,99,947-11-

We have the honor to be,

Fort William  
31st January 1791.  
[Per William Pitt]

Hon'ble Sirs,  
Your most faithful,  
Humble Servants,

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## LETTER DATED 12 MARCH 1791

*Rice contracts of Tyler and Mair—supplies of funds and rice to  
Bombay—supplies to Botany Bay—European bad characters.*

O the Hon'ble Court of Directors

Hon'ble Sirs,

1. By your Ship the Warren Hastings, now under dispatch, We have the Honor to transmit to you the Annual Sett of our Consultations, in this Department, with our Index for 1790, and the Papers mentioned in the List of the Packet. You will receive by the Hawke. Dispatched on the 2d Instant, the Continuation of our Proceedings subsequent to those which were forwarded by the William Pitt.

Fort St. George

2. We noticed, in our General Letter by the William Pitt, Mr. Tyler's want of punctuality in fulfilling his Engagements to pay money into Madras Treasury, and the Resolutions we had to in consequence.

3. In our Proceedings, Noted in the Margin, you will observe a Letter from Mr. Tyler, soliciting our attention to the Consu. 21st Jany. Question of Compensation, referred back to us by

your Hon'ble Court, for the Losses which under the Circumstances that happened, he stated that he had sustained on his Engagements for the Supply of Rice to Madras in the Year 1787 and 1788.

4. Lord Cornwallis, previous to his Departure for Madras, had expressed his Opinion on this Subject to our Secretary, Recommending the appointment of a Committee, consisting of Mr. Bristow, Mr. Farquharson, and Mr. Caldecott, to investigate certain Points, Noticed in the Memorandum, which is entered in our Consultation of the 21st January.

5. When the Report of the Committee has been laid before us, We shall pass our Resolutions on the subjects of it, and these will be communicated to your Hon'ble Court in a future Dispatch.

6. You have been informed, in our General Letter by the William Pitt, of the Rejection at Madras of large Quantities of Rice Supplied by Mr. Mair, under his Contract, in Consn. 4th Feby. consequence of the unfavourable Report of the Garrison Storekeeper at that Presidency. The circumstance having been intimated to Mr. Mair, he addressed claiming the Support of this Government against what he conceives to be an unjust measure, adopted to his prejudice at Fort St. George.

7. The Grounds, upon which Mr. Mair's Contract Rice had been rejected, at Madras, were of such a nature that it was impossible we could, with propriety, yield our Compliance with his request contained in the Letter above referred to, but as it would appear from his statement that the Rice condemned, at Madras had been approved of, here, by the Inspectors appointed by Government, and as there were Circumstances in the mode of rejection which might be considered as not being strictly conformable to the Conditions of the Contract, We thought it expedient to transmit to your Presidency of Fort St. George, a Statement, containing a General View of the whole Transaction, and to request their opinion on the Subject of it, in order to assist our Judgment in deciding upon the reference from Mr. Mair.

8. The Supply of Rice required at Vizagapatam, and mentioned in our address by the William Pitt, was completely Shipped, early in the month of February. You will observe, by Consn. 4th Feby. our Proceedings on the 4th of that Month, that a large Quantity of Grain had been imported at Vizagapatam from Bengal, and that a further Quantity, intended for the Supply of the

place, had been withheld for want of Purchasers; so that we trust that they will suffer no want of this necessary Article of Provision at Vizagapatam.

### Bombay

9. In our address, from this Department, by the William Pitt, we informed your Hon'ble Court that your Government of Bombay, still apprehensive that the supply of Grain already sent to them would not prove sufficient for their wants had requested us either to publish an advertizement here inviting Proposals of Contract for two additional Lacks of Bags, or admit of their issuing a publication for that purpose at Bombay.

10. The former alternative having been adopted by us, offers were delivered for Quantities far exceeding that required; but undoubted intelligence having been  
 Consn. 4th, Feby. 11th Feby. 16th Feby. in the mean Time, received that very large Supplies of Grain had been provided to be sent to the Malabar Coast, and that those actually arrived and expected at Bombay had occasioned a Considerable Fall in the price, We thought it Advisable to limit the present Supply to one Lack of Bags; but informed your Presidency of Bombay, at the same time, that, should a Second Lack be required, means would be immediately taken for providing it.

11. As it occurred to us that the future Operations of your Forces on the Malabar Coast might be essentially  
 Consn. 4th Feby. promoted by seasonable Supplies of Grain, a Clause was inserted in the Advertizement published by us for the Proposals of Contract, making it a part of the Agreement that the Vessels, on which the Contract Rice might be laden, should touch at Telli-cherry, on their way to Bombay, provided they should arrive on the Malabar Coast on or before the 15th of May, and deliver at Tellicherry such Quantities of Rice, within the Amount of the Contractor's Engagements, as the Governor of Bombay or the Resident and Factors might require, attending also to any orders the Contractors might receive from the Governor of Bombay or the Resident and Factors of Tellicherry for delivering it at any other Ports on that Coast.

12. The obvious and necessary precaution of apprizing General Abercromby, now Commanding in the Field, of  
 Consn. 4th Feby. the abovementioned condition of the Contract, so that the object intended by us might be effected, was not omitted, as we requested the Government of Bombay to communicate the necessary information both to the General himself, and to Resident and Factors at Tellicherry.



13. We have had occasion, repeatedly, in our late addresses, to make mention of the channel of remittance Established by means of the Principal Commercial houses at Benares to your Presidency of Bombay, and we informed you that a Monthly supply of three Lacks had been actually engaged, expressing at the same time, our hopes that these means would be found sufficiently ample to preclude the necessity of resorting to any other for the Purpose of giving effect to the operations of the War on the side of Bombay, so far as their success might depend on pecuniary Supplies.

14. The extent, however, and magnitude, of those operations required extraordinary Aids, to which the Monthly supply from Benares was deemed inadequate. On the other hand it appeared that the Company were liable to considerable loss by the Remittances made through that Channel and that, in consequence of the numerous Consignments of Grain to Bombay and Surat, by the Merchants of this Port, a great Demand existed there for Bills on Bengal for the Purpose of remitting the returns of such Consignments.

15. We were induced by this Considerations to advertize for the receipt of Proposals for paying Money into the  
 Consn. 4th Feby. Bombay Treasury, in return for advances to be made in specie from General Treasury; and also to request your Government of Bombay to advertize for the Payment of Money into their Treasury, for Bills to be drawn upon us, whenever they might find that this mode would prove less disadvantageous than the other. A Copy of the advertizement which we published on this occasion attends you a Number in the Packet.

16. From the great eagerness evinced by the Shroffs to obtain a Part of the Bombay remittance, it was evident that hopes of considerable-profit from it were existed, [*sic*] and we hence also inferred that a similar publication issued at Bombay with that issued here would prove the means of procuring such a Supply as the exigencies of the Presidency might still require, beyond the amount remitted to them from hence, By the Proceedings noted in the Margin your  
 Consn. 10th Feby. Hon'ble Court will observe that the offers made to, and accepted by us of Bills on Bombay did not exceed a Lack and Thirty Thousand Rupees; but to this amount must be added the further Sum, which previous to our taking the Proposals into consideration, We had accepted from Responsible individuals, to the amount of Current Rupees 2,78,400.

17. We beg leave to refer your Hon'ble Court to the Proceedings  
 Consn. 23rd Feby. Noted in the Margin, as containing a Reference made to us by the Bombay Government relative to the Revenues of the Island of Salsette as also our Answer to it, from

which you will observe that we have recommended a temporary System, best adopted in our opinion to the Circumstances laid before us; but we have desired the Bombay Government to furnish with more full and Satisfactory Information, than had been sent, upon certain Points referred to our Decision, and, on being furnished with such Information, we shall propose to them a permanent Plan for the Collection and Management of the Revenues of Salsette, as perfect as the Situation of the country may admit, or our knowledge of the subject enables us to suggest.

### Botany Bay

18. Lord Cornwallis has forwarded to us a Copy of a Letter which arrived by the John Packet; addressed to his Lordship by Mr. Grenville, one of his Majesty's Secretaries of State, on the Subject of various Articles intended for the use of the Settlement at Botany Bay, which Mr. Grenville, from the information that had been laid before him, was induced to believe, might be supplied from hence on Terms much more reasonable than they could be Supplied from Europe.

19. His Lordship having Recommended that Proposals of Contracting for such Supplies as might be wanted for the above Purpose should be made by public advertizement, this is the mode which we entered pursuing, as soon as the List of the Articles required shall be received, unless in the interval, Orders shall arrive from Europe on the Proposals made by Messrs. Lambert and Ross and Mr. Bedulph, (Transmitted by the Houghton) offering Terms for a permanent Supply and Recommended by Lord Cornwallis to the Consideration of his Majesty's Ministers.

### Miscellaneous

20. In the Proceedings, of the date Annexed, you will observe a Letter from the Resident of Benares, Recommending to our Attention a Plan for Establishing a Company of Insurance at Mirzapore, for the Purpose, of assuring the internal Trade of India within the Provinces and districts of Benares.

21. On taking the above Plan into consideration, an objection occurred to us to render its establishment improper; and We therefore Signified our assent to the Resident of Benares,—but under a Reservation that our Permission should confer no right on such Company to employ a European Agent for reside [sic] in the Country, and that, in this respect, as well as in others the [they] should be Subject to the Regulations of Government. The Resident of Benares

on the quality of the Opium) were requested to consider and report on this question likewise. Their Report, which is recorded on the 15th of July was in favour of selling the Opium in Calcutta; but the Statement, they delivered in, proceeding on grounds, which we deemed to be rather erroneous, and additional Considerations, occurring to us, which had not influenced their Opinion, we determine on mature deliberation to send the Opium to be disposed of, at Macao, in China

57. The objections subsequently made by Mr. Collie thro' his attorney to the John the vessel originally offered by himself, the request preferred to us that we would forward the opium to the Eastward (still proposed to go under the Charge of Captain Stephenson) or a Company's Pilot Schooner, with a party of Sepoys for it's protection—our refusal of that request,—the Resumption by Mr. Collie, of his former opinion respecting the John, which he then declared unfit,—Our acceptance of the tender of another vessel, the phoenix, in consequence of the declared unfitness of the John, our motive for preferring the Phoenix to the John for the Purpose of conveying the Opium, as well as for abiding by Mr. Collie's first nomination of Mr. Stephenson, Mr. Collie having now altered his choice, and proposed Captain Counsel to have charge of the Opium), the perseverance of Mr. Collie in the requests he had made, and his Consequent attendance upon us at our desire, in Council, are all recorded in the Proceedings of July, which we have referred to in the Margin.

58. Our Principal motive, for calling Mr. Collie before us, was that we might be enabled to discover from him, in person, how far his own sentiments had been delivered in the correspondence which had passed, and in what degree he had been made an Instrument by others. A final decision, also, became every day more necessary on this subject, lest the proper Season should Elapse for effecting the voyage to China; and upon this consideration it was, that we made the proposition, to Mr. Collie, of either Consenting to the mode of disposing of the opium, in the manner we had recommended or of redeeming the Mortgage himself immediately—He declared himself unable to effect the latter, and we therefore finally determined on dispatching the Opium to Macao, by the Phoenix under the Charge of Captain Stephenson, as Supercargo.

59. We will not lay too great a Stress on Mr. Collie's apparent acquiescence, when before the Council; but we are persuaded that the measure, we have adopted would at all events, have become necessary, as we were not bound to consider Mr. Collie's accommodation, committed, as he was, further than as it was not in opposition

to the Interests of the Company, which it was incumbent upon us to attend to in the first instance. Mr. Collie not having in his power to redeem the Mortgage or to effect the remittance for which he was Security by any other means ought in reason, we apprehend, to have been well satisfied with the prospect of being exonerated by the Company's interference from, at least, a very great part of the Risque he had incurred, and ought not, even on a principle of consistency, to have adhered so tenaciously to his resumed opinion in favour of the John, on the plea that the employment of the Phoenix, on this service, was likely to be attended with greater expence, whilst such excess of expence was ample and undeniably compensated by greater security in every point of View.

60. Our Resolutions of the 29th July having been communicated to Mr. Collie, requiring him, among other things to dispose, by sale, of the John, and to pay the amount, thence arising, into the Company's Treasury,—he on the 30th sent to us a letter, a copy of which and of the Resolutions passed upon it attends you a Number in the Packet. As the Remarks, by which these Resolutions are introduced, contain a brief Recital of the whole transaction, relative to the disposal of the Opium, and as their object is fully to confute the assertion advanced by Mr. Collie, that we had disregarded every Representation and overrule every proposition he had made, we trust that an attentive perusal of them will have that Effect.

61. It is to be observed that we had, from the beginning required that he should be at the charge of the Insurance of the Opium from his private funds. This demand tho' we believe it by no means unreasonable, he had evaded; and he had even proposed to us that we should diminish the security, already in our hands, by relinquishing the pledge, we had in our possession, of three Shares in the Calcutta Insurance Company, and receiving his Simple Bond for the amount to enable him to pay for the Insurance of the opium. Adhering, however, to our first Opinion, that Mr. Collie could not, in reason, except that we should not only indemnify the Mortgagees, at the Company's Risque, but subject them also to the Charge of Insurance, we peremptorily required that he should effect the latter at his own expence; but this was refused, and the Insurance has therefore, of necessity, been ultimately made by the Company for and on account of Mr. Collie.

62. We cannot dismiss this subject without calling the attention of your Hon'ble Court to the conduct of your Attorney on an occasion

in which the Interest of the Company was so considerably concerned. You will observe, and doubtlessly will be surprized, that Mr. Jackson suffered Mr. Cotton to execute engagements with Government on the part of Captain Stephenson without requiring him to produce his power of attorney,—the

Consd 6th July.

defence set up by Mr. Jackson will, we daresay, appear to you no more exculptory than it did to us. It is extravagant, indeed, to suppose either that Government is competent to the examination of legal Instruments; or that it is incumbent on them to issue express directions for such Instruments being inspected by their Law Officers in cases that manifestly suggest, of themselves, the necessity of such inspection—Nor have we any doubt that the real fact was that Mr. Jackson having no idea but that Mr. Cotton was *bona fide* what he denominated himself, it never once occurred to him to enquire into the sufficiency of the latter's Powers.

63. But although the general character of Mr. Jackson makes us view his first omission in this light, yet we are obliged to say that his subsequent conduct in the silence which he observed towards Government upon his discovering, without suspecting the incompetence of Mr. Cotton's powers was heavy aggravation of that error, & that it requires all the conviction which we cannot deny we have that in no part of the Transaction was there any intended neglect of duty or any apprehension entertained by him of consequent Injury to the Company, to prevent our removing him from his office.

64. Yet as such removal would be productive of his utter ruin and that of a numerous family, and would therefore be a Punishment due only to wilful and deliberate Guilt: as we have such good grounds to hope that the Hon'ble Company will be saved from the loss, the risk of which would have been prevented by the due discharge of his duty: as we have also a moral certainty that he will never again be so incautious; and as we know that he has suffered to this moment, all the apprehension of Dismissal and its consequences, we have at last resolved to confine ourselves to a reprehension in terms suitable to his Offence, and hope you will on due consideration of our motives which we have fully and Sincerely Submitted to you be pleased to approve our Conduct.

### Bombay

65. Our last advices by the Warren Hastings will have conveyed to you information of the means we had employed, to the period of the Dispatch of that Ship, for supplying your Presidency of Bombay with funds for Carrying on the [war] in which they were engaged.

66. It appears by a Letter from the Government of Bombay dated the 4th of April, and recorded on our proceedings noticed in the Margin, that they had not deemed it necessary until  
 Consa. 4th May. that period to adopt the measure we had recommended to them, and of which you were apprized by our last dispatches, of advertising under certain conditions for the payment of Money into their Treasury, for Bills to be granted on this Government.

67. The letter abovementioned enclosed proposals, which had been accepted by the Bombay Government, for By Rs. 11,84,276 at 51 days Sight, and at the Exchange of 97 By. Rs. for 100 Siccas, and on the receipt of them, they were immediately referred to your Accountant General, who was directed to make a report of the Rates of Exchange, at which shroffs had granted Bills on Calcutta for Money paid to them at Bombay, at those periods of the year 1790/91, nearest to the dates on which the Bombay Government had granted bills on us, exhibiting a comparison of these rates respectively.

68. As from the great scarcity of Grain, which had, for sometime prevailed at Bombay, it was to be presumed that there would be, at this period, a considerable Demand for Bills on Bengal, for the purpose of remitting the Produce of the great Consignments of Grain from thence, the Accountant General was also instructed to report the rate at which Remittances, in specie, might be made from Bombay to Bengal, supposing the encreased Demand for Bills had so raised their value as to render a Remittance in specie more eligible than a Remittance in the other mode.

69. The report of the Accountant General, which is very full upon this subject, is recorded on our Proceedings of the 11th of May. As we were induced to hope from certain Circumstances,

Consn. 11th May. therein stated, that a publication in the Calcutta Gazette, similar except with regard to the Penalty clause, to that published in January last, would produce proposals much more advantageous than those which had been accepted at Bombay, an advertisement was accordingly issued on the 12th the [day] of May—A Copy of it will be transmitted a Number in the Packet.

70. Our expectations on this occasion were disappointed, it appearing by a Comparative Statement, accompanying the Accountant General's Letter of the 20th of May, that the proposals given in were still more unfavorable than those which had been accepted at Bombay.

71. It being generally understood by the Public, on occasions of advertisement for Supplies required by Government, that the lowest terms would be accepted, it was agreed, in the present instance to admit the lowest proposal which was made by the House of Gopaul Doss, and Monohur Doss, for one Lack of Rupees, but at the same time we determined for reasons sufficiently obvious to observe it as a rule, in every future instance of advertising for proposals for Bills, to apprise the public that we should deem ourselves at Liberty to reject every proposal without exception should we think it expedient to do

so. A Recommendation was also made to the *Bombay Government* that their advertisements issued for similar purposes, should contain the same declaration.

72. Messrs. Colvins and Bazett whose Bills had been rejected, having proposed for our acceptance bills drawn on terms considerably lower, we availed ourselves of their offer, and, on principal of equal justice to Messrs Gowans, whose proposals had been also rejected, we afforded them an opportunity of drawing Bills on similar terms with those drawn by Messrs Colvins and Bazett. The offer being accepted, we thus obtained a Remittance (on terms as advantageous as we had a right to expect, to Bombay) of Rs. 1,50,000 being the aggregate amount of the Bills drawn by the Gentlemen above mentioned.

73. A Letter, dated the 27th of May, and recorded on our Consultations of that date, which we thought it necessary to address to your Presidency of Bombay on this subject, contains Instructions as to the most Convenient mode of drawing Bills so as to provide against disappointment in the regularity of payment, and to afford the Holders a Compensation, in the event of such delay, beyond the period when the Bills should become due, & the form of a Bill (leaving an option with us as to the period of payment), which had been already adopted at Madras, was transmitted, on this occasion, to Bombay with a request that it might be adhered to by that Government also.

74. It being an object of great importance to defeat the Combinations of native Bankers, we recommended in the same letter to the Government of Bombay, that a Weekly report should be made by their Secretary to our's of the rate of Exchange, at which the shroffs last received Money from Individuals for Bills upon Benares as well as Calcutta; and we directed our Secretary to make a Similar communication every week, to the Secretary at Bombay. This Regulation has also been adopted with respect to your Presidency of Madras, and with the most advantageous effect, as will appear from, the reduction of the rate of Exchange which may be attributed in part to that cause.

75. We must now beg leave to call your attention to a Letter from Bombay, dated the 29th of December 1790 (but not received here, before March, and recorded on the 24th of that Month) as well as to it's Enclosure, being the Copy of a letter from the Inspector of the Market there, complaining that the supplies of Grain, exported from whence, for the purpose of relieving the distresses of the Company's subjects, under that presidency had, from strong temptation of superior profits, been diverted into other Channels than those to which they were directed.

76. It was rather an unfortunate circumstance, as the event has proved, that this Letter did not reach us at the proper period, when the abuse complained of might perhaps have been prevented by Regulations we should have framed to that effect.

77. The Change of the Monsoon had now, however rendered any such regulations superfluous, no ship could, at this Season, at which the Bombay letter arrived, reach any port on the Malabar Coast, except Bombay; but since that period, we have regularly transmitted, every fortnight, to Bombay, a List of Vessels taking their departure from hence, with Consignments of rice for that port, whence the Bombay Government have had grounds before them for forming a judgement of the quantity of Rice that might be expected to arrive, and have been enabled to adopt such measures, as to them may have appeared best adopted, for effectually securing, at the proper season, the Exportation from Bombay to Surat.

78. A Subject of so much importance as the failure, from whatever cause, of the deliveries of the rice Contracted for, naturally engaged a good deal of our attention, & on refering  
 Consn. 4th May. to the Proceedings noticed in the Margin, you will observe that, in consequence of a Minute from Mr. Stuart, it was considered generally by us, as it had a relation not only to the existing Contracts for the Supply of Bombay and the Malabar Coast, but of Fort St. George also.

79. Of the Contracts, which are the subject of the abstract statement recorded on that date, those of Mr. A Mair for the supply, under two distinct Engagements, of 1,25,000 Bags to Bombay (Engagements which should both have been completed on the 10th of May last) the performance, even at this advanced period, was so incomplete, that Mr. Mair had, only in the Month of March preceding, claimed his second advance in consequence of his having produced Bills of Lading to ascertain that half the amount of the rice Contracted for had been shipped in the River Houghly.

80. Considerations of Candour to Mr. Mair render it necessary that we should state that, on several occasions, he repeated his Complaints, respecting the advanced price of freight which he observed, & no doubt with truth, considerably reduced those advantages on which he had calculated at the period when he made his proposals of Contract, and he even seemed to consider our granting a Contract, subsequently entered into with any person but himself as an act at least injurious to him.

81. The answer to his reasonings on the first point (for the latter will not we hope, be thought to require any) is we presume, sufficiently



*Obvious.* The profits of all Contracts in general, and particularly where great supplies of any Commodity are to be conveyed by Sea from places where the Quantity of Tonnage is limited, and by no means proportioned to the occasional demand, must ever be precarious, tho' subsequent, and unforeseen Events may prove favorable to the Contractors views of profit, as well as the reverse. In the present Instance, two great public Calamities, a Continual & increasing scarcity on the Malabar Coast, and the War with Tippoo Sultan which was to be supported by treasures, by Troops, and by Military Stores to be conveyed from hence by Sea, had (unfortunately, no doubt for the Contractor), so Inhanced the price of freight, as to produce, indeed, the effect complained of by him; but by no means to justify the slightest deviation from the terms of his Engagements.

82. Subsequent Events (as will evidently appear in the course of our Narrative) seem to prove, but too clearly, that the Hypothetical Case, which we stated on this Occasion to the  
 Consn. 4th May. Advocate General, respecting the punishment that might be legally inflicted on Contractors, who, influenced by the temptation of the Advanced profits arising from the Increased demand of Rice on the Malabar Coast, should misappropriate the *Consignments of this article, made on account of the Company,* had, we are concerned to observe, been realized in practise.

83. The very great apparent deficiency of deliveries suggested to us the necessity of the most vigilant attention to this important subject, both here and at Bombay: and the Government there was directed in consequence, to transmit to us an immediate account of all deliveries of Rice made either under the existing, or lately elapsed, Contracts, as well as in future to transmit advices, regularly both by sea and land, of every Contract delivering, as soon after such delivery as circumstances could admit.

84. With a view to obviate the consequence of the practises, alluded to in the 79th Paragraph, we determined on forwarding to Bombay an attested Register of the *Bills of lading,*  
 Consn. 4th May. produced here to entitle the Contractor to his second advance, with injunctions to the Government not to suffer the Rice, Mentioned in those Bills of lading, to be landed, and delivered to any but the Company's Agents; and further authorising them to detain the Ship till the Rice should be delivered if the Conduct of the Master of such vessel should afford reason for suspecting it to be his intention to sail away, with his Cargo, to any other port not within the Company's Jurisdiction. This last regulation was adopted at the suggestion of the Advocate General.

85. Previous to the Receipt of any answer to those Instructions to Bombay, a regard to our duty had made it incumbent upon us to call on the Securities of Mr. Mair, under his different Contracts, apprising them that, as no vouchers of any deliveries had yet been received from Bombay they would be required, in the event of the failure, which was now become but too probable, to make good his deficiencies, together with the penalty incurred upon them of 20 per cent.

86. An answer to the above notice from the Securities of Mr. Muir, for his more considerable Contract of 75,000 Bags, is recorded in our Proceedings of the 1st of July. This letter, with our resolutions upon it, attend you numbers in the Packet. By the latter you will observe that the period for completing Mr. Mair's Engagements, by his securities, extended from the 10th May to the end of the present year; and tho' we could not consent to relieve the Securities from any part of their Responsibility, Even should it appear that Mr. Alexander Adamson, Mr. Mair's private agent, had actually misappropriated the Contract Rice Consigned to him, Expressly on account the Governor in Council at Bombay, we thought proper to comply with their request on this subject, and had accordingly desired that Government to call on Mr. Adamson to make good the full amount of these consignments on account of Mr. Mair's Contracts.

87. An opinion of the Advocate General, which, in Substance, imports that Mr. Adamson having "actually appropriated, to his private use, the Cargoes of several ships Consigned to him, as above expressed, is become responsible, for the whole to Government" was subsequently transmitted to Bombay with a Recommendation to that Government to be guided by the Advocate General's opinion, in assisting the Securities for Mr. Mair's Contracts in recovering their Rights from Mr. Adamson.

88. It was in consequence of a letter received from Bombay on the 5th July which is recorded in our Proceedings of the 6th that the reference above mentioned was made to the Advocate General. It now appeared, by a Statement accompanying that Letter; that not a single Bag of Rice had on the 31st of May, been delivered at Bombay on account Mair's Contract tho' Mr. Adamson, his private Agent, and Consignee on account the Company, had not only thought proper to appropriate to his own use the Cargoes of four Ships, and part of that of a fifth.

but justified his conduct, in this instance, by the necessity he alledged, in letters addressed to the Government of Bombay (Copies of which you will find on the Proceedings of the annexed Consn. 6th July. date) of indemnifying himself in the first instance, for the large advances he had made on the Credit and for the supply of these very Consignments, as well as for the insurance of the Ships consigned to him.

89. Our Proceedings of the dates annexed, contain a continuation of this subject, so far as it relates to the Contract for the delivery of the 75,000 bags, by which you will observe that still  
 Consn. 15th & 22d July adhering to the fundamental principle of the absolute responsibility of the Securities for the full quantity of rice not actually delivered at Bombay, or on the Malabar Coast, as the terms of the Contract should specify, we have Consented, 1st that the Rice, which may be delivered under consignments made by Mr. Mair, shall be divided proportionably between the two Contracts for 75,000 & 50,000 bags, & 2d That a further advance shall be made to the securities for the former Contract of 3 rupees per bag, (the Contract price being 6-11-6) on such quantities as may remain to be delivered, Bills of lading being Exhibited to ascertain that the respective Cargoes have been actually shipped tho' this advance is on no account to exceed the total amount, which would finally have been due to the Contractor on the completion of his Engagements.

90. We trust that your Hon'ble Court will agree with us in Opinion that the latter Copcession, tho' apparently favourable to the Securities, is not greater than, under the existing circumstances, the interests of the Company demanded, and that the security, with which it is accompanied, fully justified it on the principles of the soundest prudence at a moment like the present, when the very existence of your armies on the Malabar Coast may depend on timely, regular, and ample supplies of Grain.

91. The Securities, on their part, have stipulated that, for every Cargo Shipped, they will deliver bills of lading into our secretary's Office, in triplicate, Consigning such Cargo to the Governor in Council of Bombay direct, to be Exchanged for the Secretary's receipt for them, accompanying the said bills of Lading by a Policy of Insurance made on account of the Hon'ble Company, that, should loss happen, the recovery may be in their hands. We have only further to remark that no material step has been taken, throughtout the above negotiation, without recourse being had to the opinion of the Advocate General

92. No final Settlement has yet taken place between us & the securities on account of the smaller contract for 50,000 bags, and they therefore are still liable to all the consequences of their Engagement. They have not addressed us Consn. 20th July. Conjointly, but we have received from two of them proposals of a similar tenor, which are recorded in the Proceedings referred to in the margin, and which you will observe we were under the necessity of rejecting, not only from the proposers having misunderstood the terms, on which we had treated with the securities for the larger contract, but because the proposals were founded on the Erroneous principle of an Equal responsibility; whereas, in all cases of securities, the parties becoming bound Engage themselves jointly and separately.

93. Mr. Wm. Hickey the third Security for this Contract, and an attorney of the Supreme Court, has also addressed us; not however for the purpose of making any proposals of effecting Mr. Mair's Engagements, but to request indulgence; as he is neither, on account of his want of means, or the habits of his profession, at all calculated to extricate himself from the difficulty, in which he has incautiously involved himself, in the mode attempted by men Engaged in Commercial habits and pursuits. Mr. Hickey having been successful in sequestrating a part of Mr. Mair's property, he entertains hopes that he may be enabled to realize from it an amount sufficient to satisfy the demands against him. With respect to this Gentlemen, our intention is to wait the answer to a letter, which, on the 20th of last Month, we addressed to the parties, who are associated with him as securities under this Contract.

94. We observe, with pleasure, that Captains Richardsons and Gilmore's Contracts, the former for 50,000 bags of Rice deliverable at Tellicherry, the latter for half that quantity at Bombay, have been effected. The former Contract, Consn. 11 May. indeed, was not fully completed, tho' as appears from the testimony to the Resident and Factors of Tellicherry (recorded on the Proceedings of the date annexed) in support of a statement of Captain Hogan Captain Richardson's agent for his Rice deliveries, the failure of this Contract of small amount in itself was so far from being owing to any want of exertion that his conduct appears to have been highly laudable, and his want of complete success to be ascribed to misfortunes at sea which were the cause of damage to the rice and to his deliveries being made at places where the demand for boats for Military services threw such obstructions in his way as were the occasion of considerable loss to him. Under the perfect conviction of the truth of this representation, we have thought proper to exonerate Captain Richardson from all further demand on the above acct., as well as to make him the final payment due on the Completion of his Engagement.

95. In the 17th Paragraph of our *General Letter*, by the Warren Hastings, we informed you that, at the request of the Bombay Government, we had taken under Consideration a plan for  
 Consn. 11th May. a Settlement of the Revenues of the Island of Salsette, but that the system we had at that time recommended to the Government of Bombay was only temporary, as we had requested further information on certain points, in order to Enable us to form a more mature opinion on the Subject. The answer from that Presidency is since arrived and is recorded on our proceedings in this Department, the Subject is referred to the Revenue department, in which, at our leisure we shall resume the Consideration of it, and communicate to you the result at a future period.

#### Fort St. George

96. The occurrences, which we shall have occasion to point out to you under this head, in the Public Dept. are not numerous.

97. A Letter, recorded on the proceedings referred to in the Margin, from our Accountant General, Contains observations, which we beg leave to refer to you for perusal, on a considerable reduction which had taken place in the  
 Consn 13th April Rate of Exchange at which the Presidency of Fort St. George had drawn bills upon us, and also upon some Extraordinary and, it should appear, unaccountable variations, in this important particular, which rendered the Propriety of accepting bills, that might be tendered here on Fort St. George, a matter of very great uncertainty.

98. The Government at Madras were, in Consequence desired to explain to us the Grounds of such variations, whenever they should take place, in the rate of Exchange of the bills which they might draw upon us, taking care to furnish such early and Expeditious information on the Subject, as might enable us to apply it, with success in determining on the eligibility of accepting bills, and they were further requested to specify, in the register of Bills transmitted, such as had been drawn by them without the amount having previously been Received, as the delay, in this Case operates virtually as an augmentation in the rate of Exchange.

99. For the answer, which we received from Fort St. George to the above request we beg leave to refer you to our  
 Consn. 4th May. Proceeding of the annexed date.

100. The important reduction at Madras in the rate of Exchange on Bills drawn on this Government, being from 410 to 380 Arcot Rupees per 1% Pagodas, appears to have been  
 Consn. 15th June. owing in the first instance, to a measure we adopted,

at the suggestion of that Government, of making them a remittance in specie to the amount of Ct. Rs. 55,88,136-3-4 which took place in the months of December, January and February; and we flatter ourselves that a constant attention to the fluctuation of the rate of Exchange, and the causes which produced it, together with a regular and expeditious communication of these circumstances, will effectually prevent, in future, the successful Combinations of monied Individuals, either here or at Fort St. George, to raise the rate of exchange, for the purpose of taking advantage of the Company [.....] Occasion [.....] Very great Merit is certainly due to the Madras Government for their Efforts also to reduce the Exchange, we have only, on further pursuing this subject, to request your attention to a letter from our Accountant General *recorded* on the Proceedings noticed in the margin, as exhibiting an additional proof of that Officer's minute attention to the duties of his laborious station.

101. By the dispatches, per William Pitt, we communicated to you the deficient performance of Mr. Mair's Contract, for the supply of 50,000 bags of rice at Fort St. George; and the  
 Consn. 25th May. same subject was continued, in our General letter per Warren Hastings. We shall only observe, in addition to what we have said on the subject in those dispatches, that in consequence of an application made by us to Madras, we received a statement from thence, on the 21st of May (recorded on our Proceedings of the 25th of that month) by which it appeared that, on the preceding 29th of April, this Contract, which ought to have been completed on the 1st of April & 1st May 1790 or, according to the extension of the period at the end of December last, was still unperformed.

102. We beg leave to Recommend to your perusal: for more Complete information of the whole progress of this  
 Consn. 24th June. transactions, a report prepared by our Secretary, and recorded on the Proceeding noted in the Margin.

103. Notwithstanding so signal a failure, and the fatal Effects which, in a period of war, like the present, might have followed the  
*disappointment in the delivery of a public store of*  
 Consn. 29th June. such a nature, and Comparing the terms of Mr. Mairs Contract (which however contained no deviation from the usual form) with his Execution of it, and the amount of deliveries actually made on this account with that of the issues of Cash, or paper, which till the final Completion of the Contract are still retained in hands of Government: it was discovered that no penalty could be legally demanded from the Contractor, or his Securities, because as the quantity of rice delivered was fully equivalent to, if it

did not rather exceed, the amount of advances actually made, the Company had sustained no real loss. The parties have been exonerated, accordingly from all further demands upon them.

### Fort Marlbro'

104 Our Proceedings, noted in the Margin, will bring before you the few particulars, worthy of your attention (respecting this Residency) which have occurred since our dispatches by the William Pitt, when you were informed of the provision we had made for their wants by the Consignment of a quantity of Opium, on the Foulis which, at a moderate Computation, would, When sold, produce the amount we had understood to be required by them.

Sept. Fort Marlbro' Proceedings	}	March.
Consn. 9th		
11th		
16th		
18th		
18th May.		
6th July.		

105. It is however, with concern we inform you that the *Foulis*, which left this port in the Month of January, and after touching at Madras, took her departure from thence on the 8th of March had not, by recent advices, at that Presidency, arrived at Fort Marlbro' on the fifteenth of May, nor can we otherwise account for the delay (if no accident has happend) than by attributing it to calms of long duration which some times prevail in those latitudes or to her having touched at Tappanooly.

106. You will perceive that we took the opportunity of dispatching the military Stores and Medicines which had been indented for by that Residency, on the snow Marlbro', Captain Whitford, which sailed from hence in the month of March.

107. An Assistant Surgeon having also been applied for by the Residency, Mr. R. Pye was appointed to do duty there. He took his passage on board the same Ship, and, on reference being made to us, respecting the allowances to which this Gentleman would be entitled at Bencoolen, we requested the Deputy Governor & Council to regulate them according to the rules of the service, as established at their Residency.

108. As we were unacquainted with the nature of the defences at Fort Marlbro', as well as with the Construction of the works erected there, we thought it necessary to call upon the Deputy Governor & Council at Fort Marlbro' to transmit to us, by an early Opportunity plans and Sections of the Fort Comprehending the adjacent ground, together with a particular Report of the state of the works, and such observations as they might think necessary for the information of this Government, accompanying their own remarks on the subject with those of the Commanding Officer of the Troops, of the Officers in command of the artillery, and of their Engineer.

109. We beg leave to refer you to our Proceedings, of the 16th of March, for a separate letter which we found it necessary to write to Bencoolen reminding them of an application we had made to them, in 1788, for certain accounts, which, without assigning any reason, they had omitted to forward to us with their late dispatches. The same letter contains observations on certain irregularities, we had remarked, in the mode of stating their accounts, and some instances of a want of Clearness and precision which we were under the necessity of requesting them to correct in future.

#### Prince of Wales Island

110. You will have been informed by our advices, transmitted by the *William Pitt*, of the threatening appearance of hostilities, on the part of the King of Queda which, towards the Close of last year, had furnished the ground of an application from Captain Light for a detachment of two Companies of Sepoys from hence, with *ten* guns and their proper Stores.

111. A letter from Captain Light, dated the 13th of February and recorded on the proceedings of the annexed date, mentioned the Continuance of similar apprehensions, and that they were become so strong and unremitting from the Considerable force collected by the King of Queda, now joined by the Lanoons, as entirely to put a stop to the clearing, or Cultivation of the lands, tho' the season had been particularly favourable for the purpose. The minds of the inhabitants appeared to have been strongly impressed with the terror of our quitting the Island suddenly, from inability to protect it, and of thus leaving them defenceless and a Prey to the king of Queda.

112. The vigorous measures, employed for the defence of the Island, occasioned these apprehensions to subside in great measure, and the arrival of the requested reinforcement, with artillery and stores, about the middle of February, Completed the means of defence, and removed any apprehension from the expected departure of Commodore Cornwallis, whose presence, at this time operated as an effectual check to the apparently hostile intentions of the King of Queda.

113. It will be observed, on a perusal of Captain Light's letter of the 15th of February, as well as of letters of a subsequent date, recorded on our Proceedings of the 20th of April, that the preparations of the King of Queda had for their object to compel an annual payment of a sum claimed by him as a compensation for the losses which his trade had suffered, in consequence of our newly Established Settlement at Pulo Penang



114. The justice of the claim was, not to be controverted, as the loss on the trade, in the articles of tin and opium only, of which the king of Queda had reserved the monopoly in his own hands, was stated at 10,000 Dollars annually. Captain Light's letter, of the 19th of March, containing heads of a treaty, or accommodation, with the king of Queda, is recorded on the Proceedings of the 20th of April, and our answer to it, with instructions for the formation of a treaty on what we conceived to be equitable principles, will be found on the Proceedings of the 29th of the same month.

115. It appeared very evident by the late dispatches, that, from the local and relative Circumstances of Prince of Wales Island; the possession of it might be rendered useless whenever the rapacity or just resentment of the king of Queda should induce him to make hostile preparations on the Neighbouring Continent, whence his embarkations, unless we could, at all times command a Superior naval force could be effected with perfect facility; nor was it less evident that a mere state of preparation, and menace, on his part, without any ultimate design of making a descent, was sufficient to destroy all confidence and repress all exertion in the new Settlers, who had repaired to the Island with views either of commerce or Cultivation.

116. These considerations, added to a sense of the Protection which we owed to the new inhabitants, who, on the justest grounds, had fully Confided in it, have induced us to consent to the concession, we have authorized of an annual payment of 10,000 Spanish Dollars, as long as the Company shall retain possession of the Island; but as without your permission which hitherto has been withheld, it was not in our power to give our assent to the defensive alliance, solicited and apparently insisted upon by the king of Queda, we thought ourselves fully justified in permitting Captain Light to encrease that amount one half or even to double it, provided the friendship and good offices of the king of Queda could be not otherwise be acquired, and under the conviction that the preservation of the inhabitants depended on our conciliating him.

117. You will also observe that Captain Light is authorized to discharge the arrears admitted as due from the period of our first taking possession, and at the rate which may be determined upon; from conceiving as we did, the claim of compensation to be just, it followed of course that such Compensation, if made at all, should be commensurate to the injury sustained. But it is also to be stipulated that if, at any future period, you should be pleased to give your consent to the defensive alliance, the annual payment at whatever larger amount it may now have been fixed, shall revert to the sum of 10,000 Spanish dollars.

118. On these Grounds, we authorized Captain Light to conclude a final agreement with the King of Queda according to the Instructions transmitted to him, affixing thereto the Companys Seal, in his possession, and declaring the Agreement to be so settled by the authority of this Government. We are as yet unacquainted with the Result of these Instructions; but, we are concerned to observe from the Contents of Captain Light's letter of the 19th of April, recorded on the 1st of June, that the departure of Commodore Cornwallis was very soon followed by hostilities with the king of Queda.

119. We beg leave to refer you to the Proceedings, above noticed for an account of the actions of the 12th & 14th April, which took place, with the Malays, as setforth in the letter of Captain Glass, Commanding the Troops, as well as in that from Mr. Light who, in the measure he adopted of attacking the Enemy, under the Circumstances of the moment as he has stated them appears to have acted as he thought absolutely necessary for the preservation of the Island and it's Inhabitants.

120. From the Light however in which the king of Queda's Conduct appears to us, we could only regret the hostilities that had taken Place. The success obtainable could by no means justify a deviation from those principles of Equity and conciliation, on which our late Instructions to Captain Light have been founded. But as it was manifest, from the Circumstances of the action of the 12th of April, that the Forts erected on the River Prye, and now destroyed by our troops, could not be rebuilt consistently with the security of our Settlement; we altered our Instructions to Captain Light in one Respect by directing him to restrain the King of Queda, by a positive Stipulation, from erecting any Fort on that River, within such distance of Prince of Wales Island as would admit of its being applied to purposes of Hostility.

121. The two 12—Pounders, and the Military Stores, required by Captain Light, in his Letter of the 19th of April were Shipped on the Rose, which sailed in a very short time after the receipt of it.

122. In Captain Light's Letter, of the 13th of February, you will observe a proposal, noticed by him as having been received, from the Chinese, established on the Island of a  
 Consn. 16th March. Payment of 10,000 Dollars per annum for a Licence to keep a gaming House, and for the Liberty of  
 Consn. 29th April. retailing opium. We have checks and Regulations as Captain Light may Judge to be for the advantage, of the Island, due regard being had to it's Police.

123. We observe, with pleasure, that the Revenue arising from the arrack farm, the Market, the Houses, shops, and Ware houses added to the produce of the farm, which has been mentioned in the preceding paragraph, and which may admit of increase in future years is sufficiently considerable to contribute largely to the charge necessarily incurred for the maintenance of this Settlement.

#### Andamans

124. We acquainted you in our Letter, dated the 31st of January last, that we had complied with an application from Captain Blair for a relief of Sepoys & artificers, to proceed to the Consn. 30th March. Andamans. They arrived at that Settlement on the 1st of February.

125. The only subject of Consequence that has occurred, in respect, to the Place, concerns a Harbour to the North East of the Island, which has been thought, by the Commodore Consn. 6th July to possess many advantages over Port Cornwallis.

126. His Excellency transmitted to us a Plan of this Harbour upon a survey made of it, at his Request by Captain Blair, and recommended that the settlement should be removed from Port Cornwallis to it, a Copy of his Excellency's Letter will be sent a number in the Packet

127. We agreed to refer the Question to Lord Cornwallis, and that no Time might be lost in directing the Removal, if his Lordship should think it proper, we requested him to deliver his sentiments, at once, on the subject to the Commodore, without waiting a further Reference to Bengal and to transmit, by his own authority, such Instructions to Captain Blair as his Lordship should think necessary.

128. All the Information that we possess upon the subject will Consn. 6 & 29 be found on our Proceedings of the 6th & 29th of July. last month.

129. The People, whom we sent from hence to the Andamans, having expressed great Reluctance at being Obligated to remain there for a long time, without their Families; and desired therefore to return to Bengal, we have endeavoured, at Captain Blair's recommendation to obviate this Inconvenience, by encouraging the People, sent as Reliefs, to take their Families with them; & we have directed that in future the artificers & Sepoys hired for the service at the Andamans shall be engaged for a certain time.

130. The people, in general, have been very healthy and the natives have been, for the most part, inoffensive but, as yet they have shewn no Inclination to an Intercourse with the new settlers, except

by appearing amongst them, now & then, with no other apparent intention than that of procuring some articles of Food, or a few Pieces of Iron:

### Mint

131. Our advices by the Princess Amelia informed you that the new Silver, as well as the Gold Coinage, had been actually commenced.

Consist. 6th	} April.	Every thing relating to this subject, either as it respects the mint established at the Presidency or at the Cities of Patna and Dacca, will be found in the Proceedings referred to in the margin.
8th		
27th		
4th	} May	
6th		
1st Jun		
20th July.		

132. The Buildings in the Old Fort, formerly appropriated to the use of the Mint, having been pulled down, and the temporary accommodations, afterwards provided for this purpose, being found exceedingly inconvenient, we complied with an application made to us by the Mint Master for the hire of a House and godowns, which he represented as being well calculated for conducting the Business of his office in all its branches, at a rent, which we presume will be thought sufficiently moderate, being Sa. Rs. 400 Per Mensem.

133. By our orders of the 1st of December 1790, and 14th of January 1791, Individuals, delivering Bullion into the Mint, were allowed to take away immediately from the Treasury the amount of its assay value; but, in consequence of a representation made to us by the Accountant General, on the 21st of April from which it appeared that the available Balance of the Treasury fell short of the Demands upon it, for the discharge of Bills which would become due before the 1st of May ensuing, we were under the necessity of suspending the operation of the orders in question; until the amount of Bullion, deposited for Coinage, should be diminished.

134. The same Letter, from the Accountant General, contains a statement, to which we beg leave to refer, of the amount by which the deliveries of specie, at the Treasury, had fallen short of the amount paid for the Mint Master's Certificates, and in part, tho' not solely or principally, had been the motive for the suggestion of a measure which a regard for the preservation of the public faith had rendered necessary a very unexpected and heavy deficiency in the remittance from Burdwan was a motive of still more powerful operation.

135. It being important to ascertain with as much precision as possible, the quantity both of Gold and silver coin, which, in a given time, could be worked off at the Mint, certain queries were proposed, to that effect, to the Mint

Consist. 4th & 6th  
May.

Master, adverting to the period when the Buildings, lately engaged for the purpose, should be in a state of perfect preparation. These, with the Mint Master's answers, will be found recorded on the Proceedings of the dates annexed.

136. *Frequent applications* had been made to the Officers, of Government, in Consequence of the advertizement of the 22nd of April (suspending the immediate payment to individuals of the assay value of the bullion deposited by them) to ascertain the period when the prohibition was likely to cease; when it was concluded that Considerable quantities of Bullion were ready to be offered, by the Proprietors, on the cessation of this Prohibition. The advertisement published, on this occasion on the 1st June (a copy of which goes a number in the Packet) was drawn up by our Accountant General, in Concert with the Mint Master.

137. The Principles, upon which the new Regulations are framed are setforth in the Accountant General's Letter dated the 1st of June, and recorded on the Proceedings of that day. They  
 Consn. 1st June. are not quite so advantageous to the Proprietors of Bullion as the usage which formerly prevailed; but it did not appear reasonable to us that your Government should sustain a loss of Interest, which is not sustained by any other during the time employed in the Coinage of Bullion; and in other respects we presume it will appear that due attention has been paid to the rights of the Proprietors of Bullion, & that the utmost impartiality has been observed with respect to them.

138. The Recoinage, in the Dacca Mint, will commence with the new Collections of the Current year, the apparatus being there in Readiness, and the necessary Establishment engaged at the Place or sent off, when necessary, from Calcutta.

139. We beg leave to refer you to the Proceedings noted in the Margin, for all that has passed on this subject, as far as it relates both to the Dacca and Patna Mints comprehending  
 Consn. 1st June. the Regulations, which we have thought proper to pass respecting the remittances to be made by the Collectors of the former division, for the purpose of the recoinage. You will observe that the Mint of Patna is not in so forward a state as that of Dacca, & that an accident, which has happened to one of the Buildings, may perhaps a little retard the Business. The Mint Master informs us that no delay will be occasioned beyond the season when the Bahar Collections commence for want of the necessary Machinery, which he engages shall be in readiness by that period.

140. Our Proceedings, on the 1st of June, contain an application from the Resident at Benares by whom it had been proposed to put the Mint of that City on the same footing, with Consn. 1st June. respect to duties, as the Mint at Calcutta, or if that measure should not be thought expedient, a Compliance was recommended with the suggestion, of the Principal officer of the Mint, that the duties on gold & Silver, respectively, which had varied according to the different descriptions of either Metal offered to the mint for coinage, should be reduced to one uniform standard for each.

141. Until we should decide upon the propriety of acceding to the former proposal, (which we referred immediately to the Mint Master, as we have also done with respect to a Subsequent application made to us by the Resident at Benares) we authorized the Resident to comply with the latter, as suggested by the Native officer, superintending the Mint of that City. Whatever determination we may hereafter come to on this subject you will be apprized of in our future dispatches.

142. A case has lately occurred, which has occasioned some embarrassment, and may, in future, be attended with very great inconvenience. By the Proceedings referred to in the Consn. 15th July. Margin, you will observe that an attempt has been made to imitate the Gold mohurs of the new Coinage, and, considering the defective means which must have been employed on the occasion, with some success.

143. The Advocate General's opinion has been desired, whether any statute is in force, applicable to this Country, by which coiners or the utterers of false coin, may be brought to punishment.

### Contracts

144. We need scarcely observe to your Hon'ble Court, after the detail we have entered into in the former part of this address on the subject of certain Contractors under the heads of Canton, Fort St. George, & Bombay, that the subject of Contracts, in general & Contracts which are from their nature, connected with Military operations in particular, have, from late occurrences, commanded our attention with more than common force. The subject is indeed of the highest importance, in all it's branches to the prosperity of the Company, but the Consequences to be apprehended from an unexpected failure, at the most critical period, in Contracts intended for the supply of armies, were they to take place in their possible and by no means improbable, extant, may be fatal to the security of it's Dominion in India.

145. It would be superfluous to enter, more fully, on this important subject, in this place, further than to recommend to your most serious & deliberate attention two statements of existing Contracts, which, in consequence of our orders, were laid before us, on the 29th July, our observations upon them, and upon the Contract system in general as it applies to the operations of War, & to the occasions of pressing necessity, with which a state of hostility must ever be attended. We have the honor to forward these Papers Numbers in the Packet.

#### Establishments

146. On the arrival of the newly appointed Writers by the ships of the last season, in compliance with the directions we had received from your Hon'ble Court, on that subject by the Princess Amelia they were appointed assistants in the different offices at the Presidency, where the customary Establishment of Company's servants was deficient.

147. As it was our wish not to incur any additional charge, in consequence of these new appointments, the heads of offices, in the various Departments, received our orders to propose such reductions in their respective Establishments as should be the means of providing for the salaries of the new assistants (being Company's Servants) which were respectively fixed, for the present, at the amount of Sa. Rs. 200 per mensem.

148. The Proceedings, of the annexed date, contain the answers of the different heads of Offices, with the plans  
 Consn. 8th April. proposed by them for effecting the reduction in question and these have since been carried into execution.

#### Natives

149. Our Advices of last season by the Princess Amelia and William Pitt, contained information respecting the new arrangement we had found it necessary to adopt for the payments of the Nabob Mobaruck-ul-Dawlah's stipend, comprehending a Plan for the Satisfaction of his Highness's Creditors.

150. It was with concern that we observed, in the Nabob, a disposition to remonstrate against the system itself, and a great reluctance to allow of its operation. Mr. Harington the Paymaster of the Nizamut Stipends had indeed obtained his Highness's Consent to the Plan having Effect from the 1st of January 1791; but in a Letter, addressed to us, by that Gentleman on the 6th of March, he communicated to us his apprehensions "that it will require  
 Consn. 20th April. a further interposition, on the part of Government, to secure and give Energy to the arrangement."

151. As it was not without the most mature deliberation that we had determined upon this arrangement, we were called upon, by a regard to consistency alone, to adhere to the spirit of it, and indeed one of the last acts of Lord Cornwallis, previous to his departure to the Coast had been an explicit declaration to his Highness, in answer to a Remonstrance made by him upon the subject, of his firm intention to carry the arrangement resolved upon into effect.

152. The reluctance expressed by the Nabob, appears to have had for it's object, in particular, two points of our Instructions to Mr. Harington,—the one, by which he was directed, at a Certain time, to Collect together, by a Proclamation to be issued for the purpose, all the Creditors of and Claimants upon the Nizamut; the other, which provided for the separate payment, by Mr. Harington of the several stipends assigned to the various pensioners, who thus would be withdrawn altogether from their former dependence on the Nabob.

153. With respect to the Proclamation, as it was our wish to gratify his Highness's feelings of delicacy, as far as might be Consistent with the effectual performance of our duty, and as the Nabob had himself furnished an account of the demands upon the Nizamut, we agreed to suspend the publication, which we had directed, till the Validity of the account, delivered in, should be enquired into, and reported upon by Mr. Harington. At the same time, we complied with a proposal, suggested by his Highness, of calling together his Creditors gradually, according to the priority of the year, in which their respective Claims became due, requiring Mr. Harington to adhere, in his Adjustment of them, to the terms directed by Government. We also desired him to fix, previous to any issue being made on account of the Debts, the Classes of Creditors for each year in the order of preference to which they were respectively Entitled, and to make frequent reports to us of his progress.

154. It was not in our power equally to Comply with his Highness's wishes, respecting the separate payment of the pensions. If some of the persons, entitled to these stipends, really felt the reluctance they asserted to receive them at any other Hands than those of the Nabob, it was in their power to have recourse to the mode, constituting some of the officers of the Nabob, their Vakeels, with the paymaster of the Nizamut Stipends, and of continuing the powers so entrusted as long as they might be satisfied in regard to the exercise of them. No general Conclusion, as to the wish of the Majority of the pensioners, could be fairly deduced from the desire expressed by a few, and even these, from closer and more intimate connexion with the Nabob, might have been made to speak a language not



their own but taught them perhaps for the purpose of getting rid altogether of the principle of separate payments, from a persuasion, to be impressed by their means, of it's impropriety.

155. For the details of inferior Consequence, respecting the arrangement in question, we beg leave to refer you to the Proceedings of the dates annexed, remarking only that upon a late reference made to Mr. Stuart by the Nabob on the subject of the form of the receipts to be taken up Monthly by the Paymaster of the Stipends, we have directed the Paymaster for the present, to continue the form hitherto in use, observing to him that, should there be any thing incongruous in it with respect to the payments on the new arrangement, it can be explained at the foot of the receipts, We entertain no doubt that while the substance of arrangement is preserved, our gratifying the wishes of the Nabob, in points of inferior Consideration will receive your Approbation.

#### Company's Servants

156. Mr. Mathew Dawson having applied to us, on the 3rd of March for leave to resign the service and to return to Europe on the Earl Fitz William, we agreed to grant his request on his producing the usual Certificates, which we required in such cases by the standing Regulations. We have only further to observe, respecting Mr. Dawson, that the Letter, in which the permission abovementioned is requested, contains also an intimation of his intention to return to the service within the period prescribed by your Honourable Court, or sooner, if possible.

#### Police

157. The Death of Mr. Honeycomb, the late Clerk to the Commissioners of Police, having afforded an opportunity of revising the salary and Establishment of that office, amounting altogether to Sa. Rs. 1,200 per Mensem, and the Magnitude of this and other salaries having been strongly represented by the Inhabitants of Calcutta in their Petition to Government, relative to the grievances they suffer from the rule and ordinance, we thought it necessary to recommend the subject to the particular attention of the Commissioners of Police, to whose Department it immediately appertained.

158. In Consequence of this recommendation, the salary of the newly elected Clerk Mr. Thomas Harding was reduced to the sum of Sa. Rs. 800 per Mensem, comprehending House Rent, and all office Charges whatsoever, but an assistant Clerk having also been nominated.

at a salary of Sa. Rs. 200 on account of the inconvenience which it was said had been experienced from the continual bad state of Health of the late clerk, and the obstruction to business which was occasioned thereby, we did not perceive the necessity of such an addition to the Establishment, and consequently declined confirming it. The reduction of expense effected, in this Department, is Consequently Sa. Rs. 400 per Mensem.

159. With a general view to the improvement of the Police of Calcutta, a survey was made, a few years ago, by Lt. Col. Wood for the use of the Commissioners, at which period it was intended, tho', by some accident the intention was not carried into Effect, to give Names to the different streets as a Regulation of general and obvious utility.

160. This Subject was brought forward by the Chief Engineer, in a Letter addressed to us by him on the 18th of March, & recorded on the Proceedings of the 30 of the same Month, Consn. 30th March. in which it is represented that, as Copy of the Survey has been taken the considerable Expense, as well as the trouble attending it would be entirely lost to the public, unless some measures were adopted to give Effect to the original intention.

161. It having been provided by that clause of the rule and ordinance, under which the Commissioners were appointed, that the Names of the streets should be affixed by them in some Conspicuous place, we recommended their carrying that provision into immediate effect, if no material objection should occur to them against the measure which to us appeared to be attended with undoubted convenience to the public, and with probable advantage to the Police.

162. The Chief Engineer having further represented that Mr. William Baillie, formerly an Officer of his Corps, had actually engaged several subscribers to a plan, which he promised to engrave from the original survey on a reduced Scale, and that he deferred commencing the Work only till the streets should be named 'by authority we agreed to encourage Mr. Baillie in the proper execution of it, by subscribing, on the part of the Company, for 150 Copies, at 20 Rupees each.

163. The lapse of 5 years, which has intervened since the survey was made, having occasioned very considerable alterations in the City and Environs of Calcutta, we have likewise authorized the Chief Engineer to employ an officer of his Corps for the space of two months to insert in the Plan any alterations that may be occurred since the Period of the Survey.

164. A Copy of a presentment, made by the Grand Jury at the present Sessions, for the Reform of the Police, in a very material point, is recorded on our Proceedings of the 20 July & is now under consideration.

### Accounts & Audits

165. The audits of the Public accounts, more particularly those under the Control of the Boards of Revenue and Trade, having fallen greatly in arrear, and as the importance of keeping them up to the latest period possible, was an obvious Duty not to be neglected the utility of the audits depending on the recency of the transactions to which they relate, it became necessary that some Regulations should be adopted, in order to effect a speedy transmission of the accounts in arrear to us for our final decision, as well as to prevent their falling into the same state in future. We accordingly passed several Resolutions on this subject, Extracts from which were transmitted to the Boards of Revenue and Trade and to the Civil auditor, for their information, and guidance. The Resolutions at large will be found recorded in the Consn. 20th April Consn. noted in the Margin.

166. The measures, thus pursued, were attended with the desired effect, for we have since received and passed our final decision on the Commercial and Revenue accounts up to the end of April 1790. The Salt accounts from the 1st, January 1787 to December 88, are now before us, and will be taken into consideration at an early period after the present Dispatch.

### Miscellaneous

167. Our Proceedings of the date referred to in the margin, contain another application made to us by the Chief Engineer on a subject of importance being the improvement of the general Geography of Hindostan, but more particularly of that part of it called the Peninsula of India.

168. It appeared to Lieutenant Colonel Wood that the late Marches of the several Detachments of your armies might be made subservient to the Promotion of Geographical knowledge, and with a view to procuring for the public a great acquisition, he suggested a mode which, if adopted, would, be hoped, become the means of obtaining the desired advantage without being liable to objection on the part of those, who with personal risque and labor, and in some cases at their own expense had explored Countries, and accumulated materials from which they thus acquired the best founded right to future credit as well as pecuniary advantage.

169. In Consequence of Coll. Wood's suggestion, and 'at' his particular request, we forwarded to different parts of India Extracts from the General Map, containing such portions of Country as were most unknown, and for filling up of which, from actual observation, opportunities would occur to different Gentlemen, employed on active Service, with some of the various detachments of your armies, whose combined operations, at this period comprized a very large extent of Country.

170. These Extracts, with their deficiencies supplied, are at our requests to be returned to us, by the persons to whom they have been respectively addressed; and we trust that the event will fully Justify our Chief Engineer's Expectations by supplying a body of Geographical information, which has hitherto been particularly defective, as it relates to the Mahratta Countries and that of Mysore.

171. We beg to refer you to the Proceedings the date annexed for a Letter from the Superintendent of the Botanical Garden, on the subject of Mr. Marsh; an assistant who had been allowed to him on a Salary of Sa. Rs. 250 per Mensem, but whose diligence and attention, in the Scientific pursuits, allotted to him on the Eastern frontier of Bengal, did not appear to Lieut. Coll. Kyd to be so great as there was reason to expect. We therefore complied with the application made to us of suspending the appointment together with the Salary annexed to it till Coll. Kyd's report should enable us to determine on the propriety of continuing or revoking the appointment altogether.

174. The Case upon Mr. Myers's Statement of it, appearing worthy of our attention, it was referred to our Accountant General, and he was directed to report whether any and what, Compensation appeared to him to be due to this description of public Creditors. His report, on the subject, is contained in our Proceedings of the date annexed, discusses very fully, and in Consn. 4th May. all the different points of view of which Case is susceptible, the nature of the Situation of the holders of the Public Securities in question, with the Compensation to which they appeared to be entitled we approved of Mr. Larkins's suggestion, and, in consequence published an advertisement, a Copy of which attends you a Number in the Packet. It will point out the mode and measure of compensation, which was granted on the occasion.

175. In our Proceedings of the 8th of June you will observe a Letter from Mr. Cockerell, one of the Churchwardens, on the subject of the want of funds, applicable to the expenses consequent to the Erection of the new Church, either as it related to the building itself or the requisite Establishment, or to the repairs, which might, from time to time be necessary, and stating that, in consideration of such deficiency, Government in the year 1789, had directed that the arrears, on account of Church expenses, should be paid off by a Warrant on the Treasury.

176. The subject is again resumed in our Proceedings of the date annexed, where you will observe a Letter Consn. 22nd July. recorded from the vestry, in Consequence of a Reference made to them by our orders. The facts stated by them, not being at all disputable, and the Estimates they delivered in 1789, being now declared by them, on reconsidering the subject, indispensable, we were under the necessity of complying with the application made to us by discharging the aggregate amount of Expenses actually incurred, & of estimates for three months Charges. These were paid, as in the former Instance, by a Warrant on the Treasury.

177. Some regulations, which we thought it necessary to form on this occasion, are recorded in the Proceedings above referred to and by these it is provided that no repairs, alterations, or new buildings of any kind, shall be made, in or about the Church, without the previous consent, or authority of Government, and that no application shall be preferred for such consent, without an Estimate, being transmitted with it, of the probable expence that will attend a compliance therewith.

178. The representatives of Mrs. Anna Maria Tolley having been called upon for the payment of the instalment of SRs. 12,500 upon her bond to the Company, which became due Consn 11th March. in October last, an answer was given that they

should with the same readiness have discharged that amount, as they had made another payment on the same account, but that the new Bridge at Belvedere, which their Constituent was obliged to rebuild at an expence of 16,000 Sa. Rs. added to the heavy defalcations in the Collections of the Nullah, by the failure of a late Tenant, had left them without funds for the discharge of the present demand, and obliged them to request our indulgence till September, when the rents of the Nullah would enable them to liquidate it. As the request appeared reasonable, and the Circumstances on which it was founded were well known, we thought proper to Comply with it.

179. Mr. Jacob Rider has also been called upon for the discharge of his bond to the Company, due on the 15th July 1790 for Current Rupees 40,075-0-10. The Proceedings referred to in Consn. 4th May. the margin Contain his answer, and a proposal made to us by that Gentlemen thro' the sub Treasurer, for the payment of Current Rupees 20,000, of the amount, into the Company's Treasury at Bombay. They also shew the Conditions under which the Request was, in part, complied with. Mr. Rider, you will observe, purposes to discharge the balance here, and expresses a hope that he shall be enabled to do so by the time he may receive advice of the payments having been made at Bombay, to which Presidency the necessary Notice was accordingly sent by us.

180. A representation from the Postmaster General of the Insecurity of the New Road, and the Consequent delay of the Western mails, from the Number of Tygers infesting it was the occasion of our assenting to a small encrease of Expence incurred by the temporary Establishment of three Burkandosses, and five and twenty Baugmaurs, or persons whose business it is to destroy tygers, the former at a Salary of four, the latter of three Rupees each per month, exclusive of the established reward of 10 rupees for every Tyger destroyed. These allowances are not to Continue any longer than the Post master General and Collector of Ramghur may deem them necessary for the safety of the mails or the general protection of Travellers.

181. Our Proceedings, of the date annexed, Contain a reference to us from the Resident at Lucknow, with copies of a Correspondence enclosed, on the subject of a claim made by a Mr. Lottanous against a Mr. Fortier, (both natives of France and resident at this time at Lucknow) and an application to Mr. Ives, by the former, to arrest the latter for the purpose of his being delivered up within the Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of Judicature

182. Tho' it was the intention of the Legislature, in it's late provisions, that British Subject should be amenable even tho' residing in the territories of our allies, to the Justice of the Supreme Court we did not, in the present instance, Consider ourselves at liberty to authorize any interference on the part of the Resident, to whom the answer, which we referred was to that effect with the additional observation that the parties (being Foreigners) must be left to obtain justice from the Government of the Nabob of Oude.

183. It appeared by an address, forwarded to us by the Board of Revenue on the 19th March, and from the papers enclosed in it, that the Resident of Benares had permitted  
 Consn. 24th March. the House of Monohur Doss, then in charge of the Treasury there, to apply the unappropriated balances of his Treasury to the discount of Bills, that house paying interest for the sums so employed, till required for the service of Government.

184. The Board of Revenue were of opinion that not only great inconvenience might result from this practice, in the event of sudden emergency; but that the dignity of Government was Committed thereby; and, as our opinion perfectly Coincided with their's the Continuance of the practise was forbidden, tho' we were Convinced that the Resident of Benares was influenced by no other motive in permitting it, than that which he himself assigns, and which was founded in the certain advantage (unattended with risque) thus produced to the Company.

185. By the Houghton we informed your Hon'ble Court of the discovery, which had been made, of the Forgery of one of the Company's Certificates, and of the measures which we had found it necessary to take in consequence. We have only to add that three of the parties indicted for this offence at the last Sessions, have been found guilty at the present, and one acquitted. The Crime not being Capital in this Country the indictment was for a misdemeanor only; and as sentence has not yet been passed we are not apprized of the punishment to be inflicted on those who have been found guilty.

186. Two letters will be found recorded on our Proceedings of the 22d. of April and 8th of June from Mr. Gilchrist and Mr. Francis Gladwin. The former soliciting an additional subscription of 10 Rupees for the 300 Copies of his  
 Consn. 22nd March & 8th June Hindostanee Grammar, which we had subscribed for on the part of the Company, the latter laying before us a request that the encouragement, usually granted by Govt. to similar undertakings should be extended to a work he intended for the press, which was calculated to facilitate the attainment of the oriental languages. Mr. Gilchrist's application was complied with, as it appeared that

his other Subscribers had consented to the additional charge; with respect to Mr. Gladwin's work, we agreed to take 150 Copies of it on account of the Company.

187. We had the honour to forward by a former dispatch, Copies of all letters sent by the different Resident of Benares from the Institution of the office to Mr. Duncan's succession to it. That Gentleman having lately transmitted Similar Copies of letters received, with an Index, we avail ourselves of the present opportunity of forwarding them according to the desire expressed by the Resident.

188. Mr. Oswald Dykes Jackson, who was ordered home last season, but continued in the Country under the plea of not being able to obtain a passage, has repeatedly represented to us his distressed situation, & as we have Reason to believe it is extreme we have been induced to allow him a Charter party passage on one of the Company's Ships. He will, for this purpose, be sent to Fort St. George by an early opportunity, and his passage will either be allowed him on the Swallow Packet, or such Ship of the ensuing season as may be most convenient.

189. A List of Appointment which have taken place in this Department since the Dispatch of the Warren Hastings goes a Number in the Packet.

190. The state of our Treasury is as follows.

Ready Money			
Gold Mohurs	28,615-5-0	4,57,845-0-0	5,31,100-3-2
Siccas		1,75,904-0-10	2,04,048-11-2
Copper Coin	1,25,376	3,918	4,544-14-1
			<hr/>
			7,39,693-12-5
Bills Receivable		2,97,911-12-3	3,45,577-10-4
	Current Rupees		10,85,271-6-9
Unsorted Treasure			777-0-0
Balance account Deposits			1,19,893-0-11
Accountant General Mayor's Court			1,04,930-3-5
Old Bond Debt on which the Interest has ceased by public advertisement			1,34,289-12-11
New Bond Debt			11,214,733-8-5
Madras Military arrears			27,91,774-5-9
Bombay Ditto Ditto			17,31,822-2-9
Loans taken up at 12 per cent			29,47,777-5-3
			<hr/>
			1,50,85,271-12-5

Fort William  
August 1791.  
Swallow]

We have the Honour &c &c



## LETTER DATED 25 NOVEMBER 1791

*Stationery—dak service—maps and Smith's Journal—China remittance and conduct of Stephenson and Fairlie—rice contracts and Tyler, Mair and Fairlie—cross accounts among the Presidencies of Bengal, Madras, Bombay—treaty with the King of Kedah—Popham's services—embargo in consequence of scarcity of grains—improvement in police administration—insolvents and vagrants—slave trade—death of Muhammad Riza Khan.*

**To** the Hon'ble Court of Directors & Ca.

Hon'ble Sirs,

Para' 1. We have the honour to forward you by the Ship Queen, now under dispatch, a Duplicate of our letter from this Department by the Swallow Packet and a Continuation of our Proceedings for the Months of August, September, and October, with an Index, & the Papers mentioned in the List of the Packet.

2. Since the Date of our last Dispatches we have been honoured with your letters of the 11th & 30th of March & 6th of May which were received by your Ships Phoenix, Northumberland & Airly Castle, and we shall now proceed answer them in the usual Form.

Answer to the General Letter of 11th March 1791 Pr. Phoenix.

3. Para' 1. Date of last Dispatches.

Para 2 to 7. Respecting newly Appointed writers; list of free Mariners & ca. & Co.

Do not require any answer.

4. Para' 8. List of Select Committee of Supercargoes at Canton & ca.

The order contained in this Paragraph will be duly attended to.

5. Para' 9. Do. of Supercargoes.

Requires no answer.

6. „ 10. John Warden, who proceeded to India without licence, to be sent home by the first opportunity.

The Superintendants of Police were furnished with the necessary Instructions for carrying this order into effect, if John Warden should make his appearance within the

Jurisdiction of their authority. We have not been yet able to discover that he is in any Part of these Provinces.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 7. Para 11 & 12. Noticing paragraphs not requiring Reply, or already Replied to.  | No answer necessary.   |
| 8. 13. Do not object, under circumstances to the late consignment of Gold Bullion as Part of our Remittance to Madras. Trust that some more eligible mode will be found of effecting our Remittances in future. | The Instruction in this Paragraph will be duly considered when future occasions shall require a direct Remittance from Bengal to Fort St. George.  |
| 9. Para, 14, 15, 16. Noticing Paragraphs already Replied to or not requiring Reply.   | No answer necessary.   |
| 10. (17 to 23.) Expressive of approbation on different occasions orders defer'd (Para 20). Respecting the Andamans & Prince of Wales Island & ca & ca.  | Do not require any answer.   |
| 11. (24 to 28.) Respecting Stationery.  | These paragraphs were communicated to the Committee for controlling the Expenditure of Stationery. We shall address you in another part of this letter on the subject of the supply of the present season. |
| 12. Para. 29. Approve of the assistance we have afforded to the Free school Society.  | This paragraph has been communicated to the Governors of the Free school society.  |
| 13. ....30. Referring for Reply, to a future period.  | No answer necessary.   |

14. .... 31. Approving of the reestablishment of the old guards of Buxaricas & Seedawals, to inform the Hon'ble Court if the Tax levied for their Support be adequate to the Expense. This Subject will be taken up under the head of "Police".
15. Para' 32. 33. 34. Referring to as future period for a Reply or to the letter on the Subject of Indian Finances. Do not at present require any answer.

Answer to the General Letter dated 30th of March 1791, Pr.  
Northumberland

16. Para' 1. Date of last advices. }  
2 to 18. Either Noticing paragraphs not requiring any orders, or Expressive of approbation of an acquiescence in measures adopted here. } Do not require any answer.
17. Para' 19. 20. 21. On the Subject of Promissory notes and Regulations adopted for the issue of them—Blank promissory Notes to be printed in England. Copies of these paragraphs were sent to the Accountant General to whos Department they relate and of whose Conduct they are expressive of your Hon'ble Court's approbation.
18. Para' 22. Approving the attention paid to the defective state of the Currency in Bengal. Specimens of the new Coin sent to the Tower & ca. Does not require any answer.
19. .... 23. Confirmed in the opinion of the Impropriety of allowing to the Contractor for Stationery the Charge & issue of We beg leave to refer to the 25th Paragraph of our Letter dated 12th March last on the subject of that before us.

the Consignments—Trust  
that some Confidential  
Servant was appointed to  
the Charge of the Station-  
ery of last season, & that  
measures have been taken  
for annulling the Contract  
with Mr. Campbell.

20. Para' 24 25. Approbation No answer necessary  
expressed Respecting  
Dawk arrangements &  
the New Dawk between  
Masulipatnam & the West  
of India.
21. Para' 26 Do not disapprove Requires no answer  
under the Restriction we  
have mentioned of the  
Permission granted to  
Messrs Lambert & Ross  
& Biddulph to freight a  
Ship to Botany Bay with  
Provisions & ca
22. Para' 27. Noticing Paragra- Needs no Reply.  
phs not requiring orders.
- 23 ... 28. Drawings of the Requires no answer,  
Teak tree Submitted to  
the inspection of Sir Jo-  
seph Banks.
24. ... 29. Approve of Con- Requires no answer,  
taining the Salary claimed  
by Syed Reza Khan &  
ca.
25. Para' 30. Noticing Paragra- Needs no reply,  
phs not requiring Orders.
26. .... 31. Respecting the In-  
vestment, & the amount  
which in a Season of re-  
turning tranquility, is to  
be appropriated to that  
purpose.

- 27        32 Directs that all Maps Plans, & Charts at this Settlement & the Subordinates be sent to England by the first Conveyance except such as are printed transmit to India oiled paper for tracing such of the originals as we wish to keep Copies of originals, to be forwarded by the first opportunity—Direct that the Revd Mr Smith's Journal when he accompanied Coll Upton to Poona may be sent to Europe by the first Conveyance
- 28 Para' 33 Do not object in the present Instance, to the Pension allowed to Mr E Mullins The duties performed by him belong to the station of Covenanted servants of the Rank of Writers whom you wish to be so employed
- 29 Para 34 Approve of the steps taken for supplying his Majesty's fleet & direct that every assistance in our power, may be given to the Squadron We are to advise the Court from time to time of our Proceedings
- 30 Para' 35 & 36 Noticing Paragraphs not requiring orders
- Positive Directions have been sent to the Chief Engineer on the subject of this Paragraph, & he has been furnished with the oiled Paper for the Purpose you mention The Reverend Mr Smith's journal will be forwarded in the Packet under Dispatch
- The direction in this Paragraph will be attended to
- These orders will be strictly observed
- Needs no reply

31. Do. 37. Think the terms Needs no reply.  
fixed for bills of Exchange  
drawn by the Commo-  
dore, upon the Navy &  
Victualling Boards equi-  
table.
32. Para 38 & 39. Think that The necessary directions have been  
we ought to have received given to enable us to comply with  
bills upon the Navy these Instructions.  
Board from the Commo-  
dore for the amount of  
the Marine and ordnance  
Stores supplied for the  
use of his Majesty's Ships,  
and direct that due re-  
gard be paid to this ob-  
servation in future. We  
are to transmit to the  
Hon'ble Court by the  
first opportunity an ac-  
count of all Stores Sup-  
plied to the Squadron,  
with an Estimate of their  
Value, and a Statement  
of such other Expences  
as are defrayed by the  
Company on account His  
Majesty's Ships.
33. Para 40. Direct that his This order will be duly attended to  
Majesty's Ships may be his Majesty's Ships have, in no  
accommodated with Mo- Instance been hitherto charged for  
oring Chains free of ex- the Use of the Mooring Chains at  
pence, as in the case of Diamond Harbour.  
the Atlanta Sloop and  
Perseverance frigate.
34. Para' 41. Noticing para- Needs no Reply.  
graph not requiring or-  
ders.
35. Para 42. Approve the Cons- Ditto.  
tructions of the New  
Dock at the Banksaul.

36. Para 43. Will send back when occasions require, the Security Bonds given for the Return of Native Servants to Bengal. Ditto.
37. Para' 44. Observing that Paragraph has already been Replied to. Ditto.
38. Para 45. Oeconomy to be observed in the marine Department. The reduction of Charges in it, during the first year of the New Management, inconsiderable. Reason. Rely on our Exertions to keep the Marine Expenses within the most of Economical Bounds. This order will be attended to.
39. Para 46 & 47. Noticing a paragraph as already replied to, and another as referring to a future paragraph of the same letter. Needs no Reply.
40. Para' 48 & 49. Expressing approval of the attention paid to a Representation from the Commodore, & Noticing a Paragraph, which requires no order. Need no Reply.
41. Para 50. Mr. William Tomkins to Succeed to the Office of Mr. Attendant after Mr. George Allen. This will be duly obeyed and Mrs. Tomkins has been informed of it.
42. Para 51 & 52. Relating to the Commercial Department. The first is only expressive of approbation; the Second directs that, in future no additions be made to the Commercial Establishments without The first of these Paragraphs does not [require any answer. The order on the Second will be duly attended to. The Board of Trade have been furnished with a Copy of it.

the Consent of your  
Hon'ble Court, except in  
Cases of the utmost Ne-  
cessity.

Answer to the General Letter dated 6th May 1791 received Pr.  
Airly Castle.

43. Para' 1. Date of last dispatches. Does not require any answer.
44. Para' 2 & 3. The first refers to a Paragraph requiring no orders, & the Second approves of the Pensions to Superannuated Pilots. Does not require any answer.
45. Para' 4. Refer to the Advices to Fort Marlbro, for the Court's Sentiments Respecting certain points submitted by us Relative to the affairs of that Residency. Does not require any answer.
46. Para' 5. The dispatches per Houghton, too bulky to be conveyed to town in a Post Chaise Directions to be observed, in future, in making the Packets up, and orders to be issued to the Commanders as to the Manner in which the Boxes are to be marked. Our Secretary has been directed to attend to these Orders.
47. Para' 6 to 11. Advise the Permission given to Messrs. Charters & Shee to return with their Rank to Bengal. Appointment of Writers. Leave given to Mr. John Hamilton & Mr. William Cowell to remain in England till next Season. Mr. R.W.M. Fitzhugh proceeds to India as a Free Merchant. Require no answer.



- 48 Para' 12 Mr. E. C. Coleman, who is in Bengal permitted to remain in India as a Free Merchant. His Covenants to be executed & returned
- Mr Coleman has been informed of the Licence granted to him by your Honourable Court and has executed his Covenants, which will be returned to you by the Packet of the Queen
- 49 Para' 13. Permission given to Mr. R. Johnson to proceed to & remain in Bengal 3 Years
- Requires no answer.
- 50 Para' 14 Send a List of Officers & Petty Officers who have remained behind from the Ships of the Season 1790
- We gave Directions that the list should be Published with a Notification similar to that advised in the 5th Paragraph of our letter by the Houghton
- 51 Para 15 Mr John Mackenzie's removal from his seat at the Board of Revenue not to operate as a bar to his promotion in the service Shall be pleased to see him again Employed in an office suited to his Rank & abilities
- We beg leave to inform you that a short Time, prior to our Receipt of this order, Mr Mackenzie was appointed to succeed Mr Champain in the Salt agency of Roymungul & Joynaghur.
- 52 Para' 16 To acquaint Lieutt. Coll Kyd that the Court have received a Short Extract, which he furnished, from an Account of a Journey to Seriaugur, with three drawings Notice the zeal and Ability of Coll Kyd in promoting the study of Natural history & his laudable endeavours to advance the Cultivation of useful trees and plants in Bengal.
- Lieutt Colonel Kyd has been furnished with a copy of this Paragraph
- 53 Para 17 & 18 Mr. Thos Pottinger permitted to return with his rank & Messrs G. Cuming, D.
- The Gentlemen mentioned in the 18th Paragraph have been struck off the list of your Servants.

Vanderhyden, & Joseph Fowke have Resigned the Service.

54. Para' 19&20. Appointment of the Committee of Secrecy and Secret Committee. Their orders to be obeyed. These paragraphs will be duly attended to.

55. Para. 21 Rank of the writers of last Season.

These lists have been Published in the *Calcutta Gazette*, and order have been given for settling the Ranks of the Writers as you have directed.

- Para 22. Names & rank of those not of age last season to Stand at the head of the list of the Present.

56. Para' 23. Names of Free Mariners permitted to come to India.

Para. 24. Mr. W. J. Collie allowed to Return and Reside in Bengal.

Do not require any answer.

Para 25. Messrs. R. Deeb, H. Taylor, & T. Pottinger allowed to Remain in Eng'and 'till next season.

57. Para' 26. Mention the Receipt of several Letters from Lord Cornwallis. High Sense entertained of his Lordship's zeal for the service, in having waived all personal Considerations in determining after the Commencement of Hostilities to remain in his station as long as his Presence in India might contribute to the security of the Company's Possessions or materially promote the general Prosperity of their Affairs.

We make a Rule to transmit to the Governor General Copies of the Letters which we receive from your Honourable Court, & His Lordship has been furnished with a Copy of that to which we have now had the Honour to reply.

Para 27. The Receipt of Lord Cornwallis's Letter of the 17th of Novr. Much concerned at the delay likely to be occasioned in the Movements of the Troops under General Medows by the late Irruption of Tippoo Sultaun into the Coimbatore Country, Hope that a Plan of operations has been properly arranged to bring the War to a speedy, successful, & honourable Termination.

#### Canton

58. We have not received any advices from Canton, since we wrote to you by the Swallow Packet. By that Conveyance we set forth very fully the Transactions connected with the Remittance to China in the last season and little more is at present necessary than to refer you to such Parts of our Proceedings as contain a continuation of the subject, the leading & material Points having already been submitted to your Honourable Court.

59. Soon after the date of our last Dispatches, Captain Stephenson proceeded to the Eastward on the Private Ship Phoenix, in Charge of the 259 Chests of opium which had been assigned over to one of the securities for Mr. Thomas Cotton's China Remittance, Mr. Collie, and redeemed by us, from the Persons to whom it had been mortgaged, for the express purpose of securing the Company, as far as possible, against the loss they were likely to incur under the Circumstances so fully stated in our address by the Swallow.

60. In our proceedings of the 5th of August you will observe that an attempt had been made to detain Captain Stephenson in Bengal by means of a writ of "*ne exeat Regno*" Consn. 5th. Augt. issued against him at the suit of Mr. Valentine Cock, but that he was released, by an order of the Supreme Court, and suffered to proceed on his voyage, in consequence of a tender made by your attorney, to the Sheriff, according to our directions, to indemnify him in the event of any loss being sustained or action brought against him in consequence of Captain Stephenson's Release.

61. We have lately received advice of his arrival at Malacca. His Letter to us acquainting us with it, is dated the 1st of September.

62. The Markets at Malacca were not very favorable, and Captain Stephenson was proceeding to Macao, whence we hope to be advised of the result of his Commission before all the ships of the present season shall have been dispatched to Europe.

63. In addition to the offer made by Messrs Fairlie, Reid & Co. for the payment of 60,000 Dollars into the Treasury at Canton, as Consn. 26th Octr. noticed in our address by the Swallow Packet, a Comme. & Shipping. proposal for the payment of a similar amount into that Treasury has been tendered by Mr. Fairlie. We beg leave to refer you to the Consultation of the date annexed for the terms upon which this Proposal was made and accepted by us, after we had consulted the Advocate General upon the sufficiency of the particular security offered by Mr. Fairlie.

#### Fort St. George

64. There is little in our Proceedings relative to your Presidency of Fort St. George which is worth detailing in this address.

65. We informed you in the 23d. Paragraph of our Letter by the Swallow that we had written to your Governor in Council on the Subject of Mr. Tyler's engagement to pay Money into that Treasury observing that he had been indulged with an extention of the Original period which was fixed for the Liquidation of it to the End of January 1791.

66. We beg leave to refer you to the Proceedings of the 14th Ultimo as containing all the further information we are enabled to furnish upon this Subject. A suit having been Consn. 14th Octr. instituted in the Mayor's Court at Fort St. George against Mr. Tyler's Securities residing at that Presidency we shall not omit reporting to you the Decision of the Court thereupon, as soon as we are advised of it.

67. You were informed by the Warren Hastings that a Committee consisting of three Company's servants had been appointed to investigate Mr. Tyler's Claims to a Compensation for the losses he had sustained in consequence of his engagements for the supply of Rice to Madras in 1787 & 1788. Mr. Tyler having expressed his wish that this Claim should be adjusted by arbitration we have consented to his request and have nominated Mr. Caldecott, one of the Gentlemen, who were to have composed the Committee to arbitrate on the part of the Company, and called upon Mr. Tyler to make choice of an Arbitrator on his own.

68. Our late advices noticed particularly all that had occurred on the subject of Mr. Mair's Contract for the delivery of 50,000 Bags of Rice at Fort St. George and we only make mention of at present in order to point out to your attention a Letter from thence with a Correspondence which had passed between the Garrison Storekeeper and Mr. Mair's Agent, the latter having made a tender of a quantity of Rice on account of his Constituents Engagement. These and our resolutions upon them are recorded on our Proceedings of the 31st of August. Our Consultation of the 21st of September contains a statement for which we had applied to Madras of the quantities of Rice actually received in Store on account of this Contract from April 1790 to August 1791 inclusive.

69. We request your attention to a Letter from your Accountant Genl. which is entered on our Proceedings of the annexed date, recommending a measure to be adopted by the Government of Fort St. George, which would in his opinion tend much to facilitate the adjustments of the accounts of the two Presidencies by the Company's officers in England

70. A Similar proposition has since been made by Mr. Larkins with Respect to the Presidency of Bombay; and both Governments have been instructed to furnish us annually with Extracts taken from their General Books of their Respective accounts Current with the Presidency of Bengal.

### Bombay

71. Our Records in this Department since we last wrote to you do not afford any matter of an interesting nature, in respect to Bombay excepting what relates to the Measures adopted by us, in consequence of Mr. Mair's failure in his engagements for the delivery of Rice at the Presidency.

72. You will have observed in the advices transmitted by the Swallow that We entered very fully into the detail of the arrangements we had found it necessary to conclude with his securities for the larger Contract for 75,000 bags; and on adverting to the 87th Paragraph of that address you will perceive that we had agreed to recommend to the Government of Bombay that they should assist those Gentlemen in recovering their rights from Mr. Adamson, Mr. Mair's Agent who had diverted, or was said to have diverted from their proper destination several Cargoes of rice consigned to him and exported from hence in part of his Constituents Contract with this Government.

73. We were informed by your Presidency of Bombay in a Letter dated the 9th of September that they had directed their Solicitor to proceed against Mr. Adamson on the above mentioned account; but we are sorry to observe that a Measure adopted by themselves, or at least by their officers, had a tendency to throw very unnecessarily an additional burthen on Mr. Mair's Securities, and of course to encrease the risque to the Company of a loss of property. It appeared that towards the end of July two Cargoes of Rice were tendered by Mr. Adamson in part of Mr. Mair's Contract and, not being fully equal to Muster were absolutely and entirely rejected.

74. This Measure was unfortunate, and perhaps rather inconsiderable and it is, doubt, to be regretted that under the peculiar Circumstances of that Contract, the Rice so tendered *Consn. 14th Sept.* had not been taken at a reduced Valuation. This indeed is the opinion delivered by your Advocate General, in consequence of a reference, made to him by us and recorded on our Proceedings of the date annexed. You will observe also, by adverting to that opinion, that no legal means remained after the rejection of the two Cargoes for Securing the benefit of those Cargoes to the Company.

75. The Securities for Mr. Mair's larger Contract for 76,00 Bags have made an application to us to forbid the absolute rejection of any Rice they may tender in part of the Contract at Bombay, and proposed that, in case the Rice, so tendered, shall not prove quite equal to the Muster, it's proper Value shall be regulated by the market value as that shall be ascertained by a Committee to be composed of Persons equally nominated by the Company and by themselves, and that according to their decision, it shall be received and Credit allowed them for the delivery. The same Considerations which made us regret that the Cargoes tendered by Mr. Adamson had been rejected induced us to acquiesce in this proposition and the Government of Bombay were furnished with the necessary instructions in consequence.

76. We informed you, by the Swallow, that no final settlement had taken place between us and the securities upon Mr. Mair's Contract for the delivery of 50,000 Bags of Rice at Bombay, since that period we have been engaged in correspondence with these Gentlemen, and it is only of late that we have had a prospect of bringing it to such a Conclusion as, (under the change of Circumstances, that has occurred in consequence of the scarcity with which the Country is threatened), may be deemed advantageous, or at least safe, to the Interests of the Company.

77. The principal obstacle to the adjustment of this business arose in Relation to Mr. Hickey, who was mentioned in our late dispatches as one of the Securities for the Engagement in question and of whom it was observed that neither his Situation in life nor his professional habits rendered it easy for him to fulfil the terms of this Contract, for which he stood Security, in the mode adopted by the Securities for the other.

78. When the affairs of Messrs Mair and Cotton became embarrassed, Mr. Hickey thought it incumbent upon him to file a Bill in Equity, and to procure a Writ of "*ne Exeat*" against them, and upon that occasion Mr. Cuthbert Fenwick by becoming bail for them, constituted himself a party in the Business. Our Proceedings noted in the Margin exhibit the Proposal of Mr. Hickey, & the consent of Mr. Fenwick to the Substitution of the latter in the Place of the former, as one of the Securities to this engagement, but it would seem that Mr. Hickey was mistaken in supposing, as he did, that the other two securities were willing to admit the Substitution, which had received the Sanc-

Consn. 31 Augt. tion of your Advocate General's Opinion to Recommend it and we therefore inclined to admit it.

79. Upon this occasion a dispute (the Particulars of which we have nothing to do with) arose between Mr. Hickey and one of the other securities; and as the Matter remained wholly unsettled we directed your attorney to proceed against the parties for the recovery of the amount, to which they had become liable by Mr. Mair's Failure. The Substitution of Mr. Fenwick for Mr. Hickey was at length admitted by the other securities.

80. It has now been resolved, and the Securities for the Contract in question have agreed to the accommodation thus yielded to them, that they shall be released from their engagements to deliver any further quantity of Rice at Bombay upon their holding themselves obliged to pay in Cash into the Company's Treasury at Calcutta whatever Demand the arbitration of creditable Merchants appointed mutually on their part and on the part of Government, may decide in Six Weeks after the end of December (so as to admit of full accounts arriving from Bombay to shew the State of the performance of the two Contracts at the period) to be a fair Demand, under the Conditions of the Contract for 50,000 Bags, upon the Securities taking the price of Rice as it stood on the date of the first Letter received from those securities after the Embargo on the Exportation of Rice from this Country was laid.

81. We have to request your attention to two Letters addressed to us by Mr. Fairlie, a Contractor for the Supply of a Lack of Consn. 31st Augt. Bags of Rice at Bombay. They are recorded on 28th Sept. our Proceedings of the Date annexed. One of them is accompanied by a Statement of 1,12,700, Bags actually Shipped by Mr. Fairlie on account of his Engagement, and the latter informs us that an additional Cargo, omitted in the first statement, made the whole quantity provided by him amount to 1,20,000 Bags. The object of Mr. Fairlie's representation was to vindicate himself against Reproach in case the unusual Severity of the weather, during the Shipping Season, should operate to prevent, as most probably it would the Completion of his deliveries by the period stipulated, which was the 31st of last August.

82. It appeared from a Letter from Bombay, dated the 9th of September and from a statement sent with it, that Mr. Fairlie's Surmize was well founded for, at that period a Consn. 7 Octr. Considerable balance, upon his Contract still remained due & this Circumstance determined your Government of Bombay to receive no more Rice on account of Mr. Fairlie's Engagement. The[y] represented to us that the market price of Grain had fallen Considerably, & that the prospect of harvest was exceedingly promising; an intimation to this effect was made to Mr. Fairlie's Agent at Bombay and communicated to his Principal & the latter requested us, in his Letter of the 28th of September to give Instructions to the Government at that Presidency to receive a quantity of Rice sufficient to Complete his Contract, provided such Rice should be imported on any of the Vessels mentioned in a List, which he transmitted to us, as being actually on the way.

83. As we had every reason to believe that no exertions had been omitted on the part of Mr. Fairlie, to fulfil his engagement, and as the Cause, to which the delay in the dispatch of his ship was attributed, was a Circumstance perfectly well known we did not hesitate to comply with his request & gave directions to that effect to your Government at Bombay.

84. On the Subject of pecuniary Supplies to this Presidency we beg leave to refer you to their letter of 7th of September recorded in the Proceedings of the annexed date, informing Consn. 5th Octr. us that, in consequence of the Expiration of the existing Engagements for paying money into their Treasury, they had advertised to receive Proposals for twelve Lacks of Rupees payable in Six Months for Bills on us, but that, of the three tenders made to them in consequence they had only accepted [one?] for five Lacks, upon Bills payable at Benares, & they observed that this Resource,



with the Balance in their Treasury would afford them a sufficient fund till means could be adopted for supplying them from hence. The subject has been Referred to our accountant General, & as soon as we receive his Report, we shall come to a Decision upon it.

### Fort Marlbro'

85. The latest advices received from this Residency bear date the 13th of September and were brought on the Deptford, which arrived here on the 30th Ultimo. The apprehension we expressed, in our late advices, of the loss of your ship Foulis seems now confirmed.

86. It was our first intention to have dispatched the Queen to Fort Marlbro' for the purpose of conveying to Europe the Cargo of pepper destined for the Foulis and we beg leave to refer you to our address in the Commercial Department for the reasons that induced us to substitute in place of that Ship, one of those which have arrived in the present Season.

87 The Deputy Governor and Council inform us that they have 1,400 Tons of pepper on hand, and we trust that the ship to be dispatched in the place of the Foulis, in addition to Consn. 19th Augt. the annual Ship the Lord Hawksbury will afford sufficient Tonnage for the quantity prepared for Exportation.

88. You will receive herewith a Copy of a Letter, dated the 7th Instant which has been addressed to us by Mr. Edward Coles, and a Memorial which he has requested us to forward to your Honourable Court. We have not yet come to any Decision on the Subject of his Letter to this Government.

### Prince of Wales Island

89. Soon after the date of our advices by the Swallow Packet we had the satisfaction to receive intelligence from Captain Light, at Prince of Wales Island, that Tranquility had been Consn 14th Sept. completely restored at that Place. A Treaty of Peace had been concluded with the King of Queda, in Consideration of an annual Payment to be made to him by the Company of Six thousand Spanish Dollars, as long as the English should continue in Possession of Pulo Pinang.

90. The Treaty now concluded is more advantageous in the pecuniary Stipulation of it than that which we were induced to authorize upon the Reports laid before us by Captain Light, and a Reference to the Correspondence that had passed between him and

your Government of Bengal from the Period of the Grant of Penang to the Company to the date of our Resolutions warranting Captain Light to conclude an Engagement. The Pecuniary Compensation to be made annually to the King of Queda for the Island being 6000 Dollars, fell short by 4000 Dollars of the amount we had sanctioned. You will perceive however, that Captain Light in his observations on the Treaty (a Copy of which attends you a Number in the Packet) recommends that the Compensation should be increased to 10,000 Dollars, that being in Captain Light[s] Opinion a Sum of such Magnitude in the eyes of the King of Queda that it would operate with him as a considerable inducement to observe his engagement with fidelity.

91. A Copy of our last Letter to Captain Light upon this and other Subjects will be sent Number in the Packet.

92. You will observe, in his Letter dated the 8th September that Mr. Popham a Lieutenant in his Majesty's Navy has rendered a very important service to your Settlement of Prince of Wales Island, and to the Navigation of that Part of India, by effecting a Survey of the South Channel and ascertaining that Vessels of any depth of water, not exceeding 24 feet may now make their passage and thus avoid a great loss of time, to which, previous [to?] the Survey, they were obliged to submit, in working out of the Harbour of Pulo Pinang to the Northward when bound to the Southward. Mr. Popham has been desired to deliver to us a Chart of his Survey upon this occasion, and we shall transmit it to you when we receive it, reserving a Copy to be kept in this Country.

93. The present instance is not the first of a liberal exertion made by Mr. Popham, in the Line of his Profession, for the Service of the Company in India. At the request of Government, he assisted in the year 1788 in the survey of new Harbour and the adjacent Channel, and to the merit thus acquired he has added that arising from the performance of a service likely to prove highly advantageous to your Commercial Interests.

94. *Unemployed as Mr. Popham is under the Company his zeal and the gratuitous direction of his professional Intents to the advancement of the public good on the two occasions we have mentioned, and especially the last, claimed more than common Notice; and we have accordingly expressed to him our sense of the readiness he has manifested to promote the Interests of your Service. We have also directed that a piece of plate may be prepared, bearing an inscription expressive of the occasion upon which it is given; and we have instructed our Secretary to present it to him in the name of the Governor General in Council.*

95. Permit us to request that the Services performed by Mr. Popham may be represented, in the terms they merit, by your Honorable Court to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty in England

#### Andamans

96. A Supply of cash as well as of provisions and Stores was *Consn. 2d Sept.* sent to the Andamans early in the Month of September and Captain Blair was instructed to transmit to us a general account of his Receipts and expenditures both as they relate to Cash and to stores and Provisions, from the time he was placed in charge of the Settlement at the Andamans to the latest period; and he has been further directed to forward the same in Monthly statement as opportunities offer.

#### Embargo on Grain

97. It is with the greatest concern that we advise you of the Necessity we have been under of laying an Embargo on the Exportation of grain from this Country. It took place on the 10th of last month.

98. The season, till the beginning of September, afforded in general a prospect of abundance, but from a total cessation of the rains about that period and the almost uninterrupted continuance of the drought, the dreadful effects of a very great scarcity were to be apprehended.

99. Had a favorable change in the weather taken place during the first part of the Month of October, altho' some loss would, no doubt, have been incurred, a very considerable proportion of the great rice harvest would have been saved, and the export of that article might possibly have been continued without serious inconvenience to the Country, and from these Considerations we postponed the measure of laying an Embargo as long as the delay was consistent with a provident regard to the necessities of these Provinces, from most parts of which as well as from the zemindary of Benares and the Dominions of the Nabob Vizier, accounts had previously arrived more or less melancholy, and announcing on the whole the approach of Scarcity, so serious as almost to amount, in some instances to Famine.

100. Copies of the first Publication issued in this occasion, and of a second which we agreed to in favor of such Vessels laden with Grain as had actually cleared out at the Custom House, tho' they had been prevented from proceeding on their respective voyages previous to the date of the Embargo, attend you Number in the Packet.

101. Due precaution has been taken to give the Prohibition its full Effect by issuing the necessary orders to the Collectors of Dacca and Chittagong, and the Salt Agent at Hidgelee to prevent the Exportation of Grain to sea from those Districts, and the French Agent, and the Director and Council at Chinsurah have also been requested to co-operate with us in the execution of this necessary measure, by prohibiting the Pilots, under their Respective Orders from taking charge of any Vessels that may be laden with grain—Mr. Titsingh, the Director at Chinsurah yielded immediate compliance with our Request, and transmitted to us a Copy of the Orders issued on this occasion to the Dutch Pilot; but Mr. Fumeran, the Agent for the affairs of the French, possessing no actual authority over the Pilots in the French Service, during the Continuance of the state of anarchy which still subsists at Chandernagore is not at present enabled to afford that assistance which he is inclined to yield at our Request. Any application to the Danish Settlement of Serampore was unnecessary, as the Danes have no Pilot in their employ.

102. It is peculiarly unfortunate that in a case of scarcity occurring in Bengal no positive reliance, from the state of Government and of Commerce in the Neighbouring Countries, can be placed upon external supplies But as we were naturally solicitous to avert by every means in our power the Melancholy effects of Scarcity from these Provinces, it occurred to us that an application for supplies of Grain, to the Government of Batavia might possibly be made, and we therefore wrote upon the Subject to the Director at Chinsurah Mr. Titsingh we were assured by him, in answer, of the good will and friendly disposition of the Government General of Batavia towards the Government of English Company, but he professed himself to be entirely unacquainted with the state of the Crop in Java, and he would not on this account encourage the Expectation of Relief from that Quarter.

103. The prospect of advantage might certainly, induce private Merchants (especially as the embargo upon the Export of Grain has disappointed them, in the Means of loading several Ships and Vessels in the River) to speculate upon Imports of this article, could it be procured, in any considerable Quantities, from the Countries Eastward; But, altho' two or three Instances of such a Design have been brought before us, and received encouragement, we apprehend (all Circumstances considered) that few will engage in similar speculations, and we cannot therefore expect to derive much assistance from that source of Relief to the Distresses of the Country.

104. The several Collectors in the Provinces and the Resident at Benares have been directed to report monthly for our information the state of the markets in their respective districts as it either regards

the Quantum of supply or the price of the several descriptions of Grain, noting any material variation in the latter as early and as often as it may occur.

105 For obvious reasons, we thought it necessary to request a similar periodical Communication from the Madras Subordinates of Ganjam, Vizagapatam, and Masulipatam.

106 We are much concerned to inform you that we have since received very Melancholy accounts of the distressed State of these Countries also. Their sufferings, from the want of Rain, have been exceedingly severe, and it is a painful Consideration that the State of Bengal does not admit of our relieving them to the Extent of their Necessities. Some assistance we have already afforded to your settlements in the Northern Circars. We have consigned about 13,000 Bags of Rice (of the Quantity that your Ships Phoenix, Kent and Camden, did not take to Fort St. George) to Masulipatam Vizagapatam, to Ganjam, And about fifty thousand Bags more have been provided to be sent to the Coast.

107. It appears by late advices from Fort. St. George that the Countries to the Southward of the Kistna, are by no means exempt from the apprehension of a Calamity similar to that experienced in the Circars and proceeding from a similar Cause.

108. The Consultations, referred to in the Margin contain every thing that has passed relative to this subject either as it regards measures entirely of a Public nature, or the applications made to us by Individuals for relief, under the loss and disappointment which they necessarily suffered on the sudden prohibition of the export of grain. Partial distress and inconvenience cannot on such occasions be avoided, however, they may be lamented and we have thought it our duty to adhere strictly to the line laid down by us, and announced to the Public in the advertisement of the 12th of October.

Consn. 12 }  
19 }  
21 } October  
28 }

4 November

#### Police

109. You were informed in our last address of a presentment that had been made by the Grand Jury, at the preceding assizes, on the subject of the existing Police, which appeared to be no less replete with abuses than inefficient as to its most important object, the security of the lives and properties of the Inhabitants of this populous City.

110. The subject was for some time under Consideration. It is, no doubt, in the recollection of your Hon'ble Court that a reference was made to you in the year 1788, with the approbation of the Judges of the Supreme Court, and that we submitted the Draft of a

Bill to be introduced into Parliament for the regulation and permanent Establishment of a System of Police for your Settlement of Bengal, and those subordinates to it, and not provided for in the existing Charters of the East India Company.

111. The dissatisfaction of the Inhabitants, and the Notoriety of the abuses complained of called upon us very forcibly to interpose, without further delay, by establishing the best remedy in our power for the administration of the Police, till the expected Provision should take place; and, on the 12th of October, we came to resolutions on this subject, which with the Minute of which they form a part attend you a Number in the Packet.

112. Another Paper, to which we beg leave to refer you, contains our Minute and resolutions of the 14th of October, prescribing the outline of the duties assigned to the Superintendent; and by a future dispatch, we shall have the honour of forwarding to you a set of Regulations to be framed with the Concurrence of His Majesty's Judges, for the guidance of the Police officers.

113. You will observe that, by the 7th Article of the Instructions to the Superintendent, your directions have been attended to respecting the exclusive application of the Chowkddary tax. You will perceive also that the Superintendent is Instructed to reduce the fixed charges of his Establishment, if possible, within the amount of the produce of that imposition.

114. We make no doubt that your Hon'ble Court will approve the selection we have made of Mr. G. C. Meyer, the Preparer of reports, to receive the present charge of the office of Superintendent of the Police. He has undertaken it, without any additional Salary whatever; and no increase of Expenditure has attended the arrangement, except the difference between the amount of the salaries allowed to his two assistants, and that of the allowances given to the late Superintendents. The allowances to his two assistants have been respectively fixed at Sixty Rupees 600 & Sixty Rupees 400 per Mensem, and we trust that your Honourable Court will not consider them as exceeding the Limits of a well-judged Economy, or the Consequence of the Trust assigned.

115. Since Mr. Meyer has received charge of his new office he having addressed a Letter to us communicating information that frequent applications have been made to him to Compel the Shroffs in the Calcutta Bazar to furnish Silver in Exchange for Gold Coin and to punish them if they, in this exchange attempt to value the Gold Mohur at less than a certain rate, which, at a particular period, appears to have been its market price.

116. No doubt could in our opinion be entertained of the impropriety of compulsion in cases of this nature in which the Course of Exchange must be regulated by Circumstances beyond the Controul of Government, but an advertizement published by our Directions, the intended object of which was to inform the Public that no force was to be employed to compel Shroffs to exchange silver for Gold having been widely misconstrued it is our intention to recall that advertisement and to substitute another in its place declaratory of the object of the original Publication.

117. We informed you by the Swallow Packet that a Reference had been made to the Advocate General on the subject of coining or uttering Counterfeit Gold Mohurs, and that his  
 Consn. 14th Sept. opinion had been desired whether such offence was punishable by any Statute applicable to this Country. Mr. Davies's answer is recorded in the Proceedings of the annexed date. It appearing from thence that the offence in question may be prosecuted as a fraud by Indictment, we have given Instructions to your attorney accordingly.

#### Company's Servants

118. A List of appointments in this Department attends you a Number in the Packet.

119. The Proceedings noted in the Margin contain our Resolutions for augmenting the Salaries allowed to the Writers, who were appointed and arrived here last year and our  
 Consn. 31st Augt. reasons for granting an additional Salary to Mr. Colin Shakespear the first assistant in the Public Department.

120. The Attornies of Mr. W. Harding late Civil Paymaster, having represented to us that the accounts of their Constituent had  
 Consn. 12th Augt. been duly audited, passed and having requested that the engagements they had entered into on his behalf, when he quitted Bengal, in December last, might be cancelled, we agreed to comply with their application.

121. You will observe by the Proceedings of the 5th Ultimo, that Mr. Wm. Cumming, Civil Auditor whose indifferent state of health  
 Consn. 5th Octr. did not admit of his continuing those laborious and unremitting exertions so absolutely requisite to the efficient discharge of the duties of that office had been induced to offer us his resignation of it and that having accepted it accordingly, we have appointed Mr. James Miller, who was recommended for Employment by your Hon'ble Court, to succeed to the same.

## Supreme Court

122. On the 2d of September we received a Letter from Sir Robert Chambers, acquainting us that his Majesty's Letters patent, under the Great Seal and bearing date the 25th of January last, had arrived Constituting and appointing him Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Judicature, and Sir Robert Announced his intention of taking the usual oaths of Office on the following day. The arrival of Sir William Dunkin, with the appointment of one of the Puisne Judges of the Supreme Court, was also communicated to us, and we were advised of his intention to take the oaths of office at the same time.

123. We were informed in a Letter, dated the 22nd of October, from Sir Robert Chambers that he entertained doubts respecting the Claim he might possess to the Salary annexed to the office of Chief Justice and the point upon which your Hon'ble Court will be to decide is whether Sir Robert's Salary shall commence from the 25th January, the Date of the Letters Patent or from the 31st of August the date of their arrival in Bengal. Sir Robert Chambers, you will observe has engaged to refund the difference between his late Salary as Puisne Judge and that of Chief Justice, during the intervening months should it appear to your Hon'ble Court that his Claim is not well founded.

124. A Copy of the Chief Justices Letter, above referred to with the minute of the Board upon it will be sent a Number in the Packet.

125. A Question has arisen respecting the allowance to the Gentleman, who was nominated in England to be Clerk to Sir William Dunkin, whether the salary shall Commence from the time of his Nomination or that of his leaving Europe, or whether it shall commence from the Date of his arrival in Bengal. The Case is new and we would not therefore grant the allowance to Mr. Macnaghten, for the longer Period, till he gave Security to refund the difference between the two amounts should the Decision of your Honourable Court require him to do so.

## Miscellaneous

126. Our Consultations, of the annexed dates, contain application from the Secretary to the Tontine of Messrs. Horsley, Gowan, and Cotton, and from the attorney to the General Bank, requesting that the Payment of the Principal  
 Consn. 5th Augt. }  
 16th } Sep. and Interest of Certain Certificates belonging to  
 28th } those institutions, should be stopped at the General Treasury. The application made to us by the latter, in the name



of his constituents was accompanied by an offer of indemnification to us for all Costs and Charges that might be incurred in consequence of our Compliance with it.

127. It appeared that Government Securities of this nature, to a very Considerable amount had been purloined, or were missing from the General Bank and the Tontine, and that the former had, in the Month of July, (as a Warning to the Public) issued an advertisement Containing a List of the said Certificates. In considering this subject and the request before us respecting it, we conceived it to be a Case that would not admit, with propriety, of the interference of Government, which ought to observe the greatest Caution in adopting measures that might affect their own credit by weakening the confidence of the Public, and more particularly of the Natives in the solidity of their paper Securities.

128. You will notice in our Proceedings of 26th Ultimo, a Letter from Mr. Martyn, the Sheriff of Calcutta representing on behalf of the Committee appointed here by subscribers for the Relief of insolvent Debtors that several of the Europeans, who have been released under that Institution have in a short time afterwards, been again thrown into Goal; that the knowledge that there is a Fund of the kind, and the Monthly support given to every Prisoner whose situation require it not only tend to lessen the Terror of Confinement, but are frequently a temptation to incur fresh Debts, & that to render, therefore the future Release of any European of solid Benefit to himself, and to prevent, as much as possible, a mistaken appropriation of the Public Money, the Committee purpose, when the Parties Consent, and as the season offers, to send them back to Europe. Mr. Martyn acquainted us that the state of the Fund was fully adequate to the Charge of paying the Charter Party Passage on that account, so that the Company would not incur the expence of transporting these Vagrants, whose principal cause of distress arises from the difficulty of their finding employment in Calcutta, and that we were only requested to direct, occasionally that they should be received on Board the Indiaman, and after their Release from Goal detained in Fort William or some other place, at the Charge of the Committee, until the Ship should be ready to take her Departure. We approved of the Plan, and, of course instructed our Secretary to let Mr. Martyn know that the Committee's application would be readily agreed to; and we have no doubt of its meeting with your approbation.

129. The assistant to the Stationary Committee, and in charge of that article having acquainted us, on the 25th of August that the Warehouse & Godowns were insufficient to contain the great quantities

of Stationery which had arrived on the Ships of the Season we were under the necessity of complying with the request he made to us that he might be allowed to hire a place to receive it.

130. We are much concerned to inform you that the account delivered to us of the Quality of the Stationery, brought here in the Ship Phoenix has been so unfavorable that no Part of it could be admitted to be used in our Public offices. We have therefore determined to send it back to Europe. A Copy of the Letter and Report given in by Mr. Hall who was appointed to examine it will be sent a No. in the Packet.

131. Intelligence brought here by the Master of a French trading Vessel and duly authenticated at Pondicherry, having been laid before us, importing that on passing the Island of Galega, in 9 Degrees South latitude, he had seen some Europeans on shore in a distressed situation, and exhibiting every appearance of having suffered recently from Shipwreck (a supposition which further confirmed by the Circumstance of a ship being cast on shore the Spot where they had erected a temporary dwelling) we thought it incumbent upon us to extend the relief in our power to the sufferers and therefore readily accepted a Proposal made to us by Mr. Fairlie to endeavour, at an expence, which we trust will be deemed moderate, (for it did not exceed 10,000 Rupees) to relieve the People we have mentioned, of whatever Description and Country, they may be.

132. Our Instructions to Captain Quane, who went upon this [Service] in the Nancy Grab, are recorded on our Proceedings of the 30th of September.

133. Our Consultations of the dates annexed contain the orders we have issued upon a Paragraph of a Letter from St. Helena, which was brought by the Lord Hawkesberry representing  
 Consta. 7th Octr. an Instance of very reprehensible conduct in the  
 26th Do. Reverend Mr. [Carr] while he resided at that Place.  
 Mr. Carr's answer to the complaint, and the Resolution we came to, in consequence, to liberate the Slave, improperly sold by him, will be sent to St. Helena by the Ship under dispatch.

134. We informed your Hon'ble Court in our Letter of last Season by the William Pitt, that we had complied with a request made to us by Mr. Reuben Burrow, that we would forward to you by that Conveyance a Volume of his Geographical and astronomical Remarks, By some accident the work was not sent, and it therefore attends you in the Packet under Dispatch.

135. You will also receive in the Packet a Copy of a Letter dated the 16th of September, which we received from that Gentleman. It will satisfy you that the desire you expressed for the measure

of a degree of Latitude and another of Longitude are accomplished but that to render the work complete, certain astronomical observations are still wanting which cannot be so well effected without the assistance of the Instruments of superior Construction, which Mr. Burrow expected to receive by the Ship of the present season.

136. During this interval, Mr. Burrow proposed to us that he might be permitted to traverse different Districts on either side of the Ganges, for the purpose of determining, by accurate observations to be made on the Spot, the Situations of the Principal places; so that some important Geographical Errors, in the present Chart, might be corrected. It is Scarcely necessary to add that we willingly assented to the proposition. The expence will be trifling, and the object is of consequence.

137. Circular Letters have been addressed to the several Collectors, requiring them to afford every assistance, in their power to the accommodation of Mr. Burrow and the promotion of his views for the public service.

138. Lieutt. Colonel Kyd has addressed us lately on the subject of the cultivation of the Cossada Root. of which this Country appears to possess two species, both well adopted to the nourishment of the Inhabitants in Case of Necessity. The frequent returns of scarcity within these few years render it, no doubt, an object of the highest importance to discover new sources of food, which shall not be liable to be effected by the same Causes that injure or destroy those species of grain or other natural productions, which constitute generally the food of the Natives, and we are very solicitous that the Cultivation of the Substitute brought into Trial by Colonel Kyd, should meet with Encouragement and Success.

139. Your Hon'ble Court's Letter, of the 6th May last contained a paragraph, which was communicated to Colonel Kyd respecting the shawl Goat. We think it proper to send in the Packet a Copy of his answer, assuring you that the means, which the Colonel has pointed out, or such other as we may believe to be best adapted to secure the object you have expressed a wish to obtain, will be readily attended to specimen of the fine wool, and of the long fleece of the Shawl goat, will be transmitted by this Conveyance.

140. Another Number in the Packet will be a Copy of a Letter from Colonel Kyd, containing an Extract of a Letter from Mr. Hastings, on the subject of the Abyssenien medicinal plant, called Woogginooos of which he sent out a specimen on the Airly Castle. If the Virtues of this plant should be found to correspond with the description given by Mr. Bruce, the Introduction of it into this Country will indeed be invaluable.

141. You will receive by the present Conveyance, a Box transmitted by Lieutt. Coll Kyd and Containing a specimen of the gum of the [Cashewnut?] tree, Collected in the Hedgelee district and we shall send in the Packet Copy of a Letter from the Colonel Respecting it.

142. Specimens of Indigo, Manufactured by Doctor Scott of Bombay were sent to us with a Letter from Lieutt. Colonel Kyd, enclosing a valuation made by Messrs. Harris and Prince of this Place, and apparently so favorable that Dr. Scott is entitled to the encouragement of the Bombay Government.

143. Mr. Geo: Begg and Mr. John Wood having severally solicited Charter party Passages on the Queen we complied with their Consn. 21st & 24th Requests, in Consideration of the Circumstances set forth in the Letters which are recorded in our Proceeding of Dates annexed.

#### Natives

144. We are much concerned to advise you of the Decease of the Nabob Mohomeed Reza Cawn. It happened, after an Illness of some duration, at the end of the Month of September, Notwithstanding every Endeavour used, with the advice of European as well as Native Physicians to save his Life.

145. His Honourable Character his Regard to the English for a long Period, and the Services he has rendered in the highest offices in Bengal, are testified upon the Records of this Government and well known to the Company in England. His public and private worth equally made him an object of Esteem and they entitled his Memory to Respect. His fidelity and attachment to the Company will always give his Family while they deserve it, a Claim to their good offices, and perhaps a more decided Proof of Regard to his services could not be shewn than by doing Honor to those to whom he was most nearly allied.

146. A Short Time previous to his Death, he solicited that the allowances enjoyed by him might be continued to his Eldest son Dillawur Jung who has since requested the office of Naib Nazim.

147. Both Subjects are at present under Consideration and we have yet done no more than agreed that the amount which would have been paid to the Old Nabob for the month of October, had he survived it, should be paid to his son to enable him to perform the funeral obsequies most consistent with the high Rank and Dignity of his Deceased Father, and to afford a temporary assistance to those of his Dependents, who are most in need of it.

148. The State of our Treasury is as follows :

Ready Money

Gold Mohurs 36,991-15-0. 5,91,871-0-0 6,865,70-5-9,

Siccas 3,55,173-14-4 4,12,001-11-6

Copper Coin 75,584-0-0 2,362-0-0 2,739-14-9

		11,01,312-0-0
Bills Receivable	4,66,896-2-3	5,41,599-8-4
	Currt. Rupees	16,42,911-8-4
	Unsorted Treasure	15,221-11[-]
Balance Account Deposits . . . . .		1,18,453-0-11
.. Accountant General Mayor's Court . . . . .		1,04,930-3-5
.. Old Bond Debt on which the Intt. has ceased . . . . .		36,102-0-2
.. New Bond Debt . . . . .		1,12,49,952-12-7
.. Madras Military Arrears . . . . .		27,38,741-7-10
.. Bombay Ditto . . . . .		17,21,332-7-1
.. taken up at 12pr. Cent . . . . .		43,72,325-10-0
		2,03,41,837-10

Fort William

25th November 1791.

[Per Queen]

I have honor to be & ca.

## 19

### LETTER DATED 25 JANUARY 1792

*Affairs of the supercargoes at Canton—supply of rice to Malras—exchange of Bombay and Madras bonds for Bengal bonds—Corbett and manufacture of raw silk—rice contracts of Mair and Fairlie—supply of funds to Marlbro—Bagley's case—permission to Popham for publishing his chart—Kyd and introduction of coffee in Bengal—stationery.*

TO the Honble. The Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble. The United Company of Merchants of England Trading to the East Indies.

Hon'ble Sirs,

1. We have the Honor to forward to you, by the Ship Kent, a Continuation of the Proceedings in this Department, including the Months of November and December, with an Index, and the several Papers mentioned in the List of the Packet.

## Canton

2. An Advertisement inviting proposals for a Remittance, to your Treasury at Canton, having been published here on the 25th of November, we beg leave to refer you to the State-Consn. 9th Dec. ment of those, which we received in Consequence, as entered in our Proceedings of the annexed Date. Advices, that arrived from Canton, previous to the time, at which we intended to take the proposals into Consideration, having represented the State of your Treasury there to be so very favorable, that the Supercargoes were of Opinion that they should have a reserve of much more than two Millions of Dollars at the Close of the Season, towards providing the next years Investment, we came to a Resolution to decline any of the tenders, which had been made to us, on account of the China Remittance.

3. Your Honble, Court will observe that, in the same Letter, your Supra Cargoes promise to furnish us, by the next Opportunity, with a particular State of their funds, and probable resources. It also notices a Payment made into their Treasury by Mr. Locatelli of the Sum of two hundred, and Thirty thousand Dollars, with the Rate of Exchange at which they had engaged that the Amount should be repaid, in Bengal, and their Inducement for accepting Mr. Locatelli's Offer without being possessed of special Authority for that Purpose.

4. According to the Agreement concluded by the Supra Cargoes with Mr. Locatelli, he was to receive, in Payment for his Remittance, Bengal Certificates, bearing 8 Per Cent Interest on the most unfavourable terms at which we might make our engagements for supplying them with Funds the ensuing Season, and although it had happened, that none of the Proposals tendered have Consn. 4th Jany. been actually accepted yet upon adverting to those delivered in we found on a view of all necessary circumstances, that the most eligible for the Company, and consequently the one in the contemplation of the Super Cargoes was that of Mr. William Fairlie being 32 Hd. Ds. for 100 C. R. at that rate of Exchange we accordingly, settled with Mr. Locatelli.

5. You will observe that the deficient payments, On account of the Remittance to Canton of 1789/90, have been completely fulfilled, with an Interest of 1 Per Cent Per Month, calculated, from the time at which they became due, to the 31st of September 1791.

6. Our Proceedings of the dates annexed, contain a letter from Mr. Thomas Stephenson who, you have been advised, proceeded, under our orders, in Charge of 259 Chests of Consn. 9th Octr. Opium, to be disposed of to the Eastward, or

ultimately at Macao, for the purpose of realising to the utmost Advantage, the Claim on Mr. Thomas Cotton, and his Securities, on account of the Remittance taken up by Mr. Cotton as Mr. Stephenson's Attorney. It announced his arrival at that Place, after attempting, without Success, to dispose of the Opium at the Malay Ports,

and, altho' at the period when he addressed us, it  
 Consn. 4th Jany. still remained on hand, we had the pleasure to learn, from subsequent advices, that the whole quantity was disposed of on favourable terms.

7. A Resolution, which is entered on our Proceedings of the 9th of December, respecting a Demand made on Mr. James Collie, as one of the Securities for the above remittance  
 Consn. 5th Augt. needs no further Explanation, than that which will be found on a reference to our Consultations in the Month of August last, and to our Address from this Department by the Swallow Packet, in which all the Circumstances connected with Mr. Thomas Cotton's conduct, on the occasion in question, are detailed, and Mr. Collie's peculiar Situation of Responsibility fully set forth.

8. Mr. Collie's Answer, by his Attorney, to our demand, on the 19th December, with a reference made by us to the  
 Consn. 21st Decr. Accountant General on the Subject, are recorded in the Proceedings of the date annexed.

9. The Property, of which mention is made by Mr. Collie's Attorney, in his letter of the 19th December, as having been regularly assigned over to Mr. Collie by Messrs. Cotton,  
 Consn. 9th Decr. Mair, and Cock, had a short time prior to the date of that letter, been the subject of an address to us from your Attorney, who expressed Doubts as to the Validity of Mr. Collie's title, and was consequently directed to consult your Advocate General thereupon. We impute our not having received any answer to this Reference to the very infirm State of Health of Mr. Davies, at the time when the Reference was ordered.

10. Mr. Cotton is still in Confinement tho' he has made Applications to us to be enlarged. We did not Object, in the first instance as we informed your Honble. Court by the Swallow  
 Consn. 21st Decr. Packet, to his being liberated upon bail, of the  
 Jany. Sufficiency of which the Supreme Court should be satisfied. But that Security has never been tendered, and upon referring Mr. Cotton's Requests to be set at liberty to your Standing Council, in the Absence of the Advocate General, we were advised to suffer the law to take its Course.

## Fort St. George, and Subordinates

11. Your Honble Court will observe that our Proceedings, in respect to this Presidency, Relate Chiefly, and almost exclusively, to the melancholy state of the Countries Subject to its Authority, from the Scarcity with which some of them, and, more particularly, the district of Masulipatam, have been visited. The applications made to us for aid, either directly from the Northern Circars, or thro' the medium of your Government at Madras, will be found recorded on the Proceedings of the dates annexed.

Consn. 4 }  
18 } Nov.  
2 }  
14 } Dec.  
16 }  
23 }  
28 }

12. In our late dispatches transmitted by the Queen (under the head of "Embargo") we informed you of the limited Supply which we at that period had been enabled to furnish for the relief of the necessities of the Northern Circars, and other districts dependant on your Presidency of Fort St. George. It was not then in our power in consequence of the unfavourable appearance of the Crops in Bengal, to hold forth either to your Honble Court, or to your Government at Madras, expectations of more Effectual relief, as these might be liable to disappointment; and we were therefore satisfied with the determination, we had adopted, of regulating the Measure of Relief, to be afforded, by the means we might be found to possess, when a more advanced Season should enable us to judge more fully of the Supplies we should be able to Spare.

13. We have now the pleasure to acquaint you that Ganjam has been provided to full Extent of its wants, and that the whole Quantity of Grain, which has been procured, and of which the greater Part has been already exported to the Circars, and Principally to Masulipatam, amounts to near One Lack of Bags independent of casual Supplies which the Northern Settlements would receive from private Ships and Vessels permitted to export from hence upon Condition of their landing their Cargoes at an English Port. This Licence has been always confined to Ships and Vessels that had received their Port Clearances before the Embargo was laid, and to those which, after receiving Clearances, returned to Port, from Distress of Weather, and have been admitted to re-export the Grain which was then brought back from that Cause.

14. In our Proceedings, noted in the Margin, you will observe a Proposition made to us by your Governor in Council at Fort St. George and founded on an Advertisement published here on the 15th of April 1789, by

Consn. 2 Decr.



Holders of Company's Bonds or Notes, at the other Presidencies, were permitted, he observed, to exchange them for Bengal Bonds, and upon the Notes of Fort St. George the Pagodas were to be reckoned at 400 Arcot Rupees for 100 Pagodas; And, as this Advertisement was supposed to be still in force, it was submitted to us, whether under the present Circumstances, the Rate of Exchange, upon such Bond or Bonds as might be transferred from the Madras Presidency, should not bear a proportion to the Exchange at which Money might be procured for Draughts on Bengal and a new Advertisement Published accordingly.

15. A Reference having been made upon this Subject to our Accountant General, we shall only at present, remark that, in stating the rate of exchange held forth by our Advertisement, the Government of Madras have, by Mistake, mentioned A. Rs. 400 Rupees as declared equal, in that Accommodation, to 100 Pagodas, whereas the Rupees specified in the Notice were Current Rupees.

16. Mr. Robert Spencer Corbett having obtained permission from the Madras Government to proceed to Bengal for the purpose of improving himself in the Manufacture of Raw  
 Consn. 25th Nov. Silk, will receive, by our directions, every Assistance, in attaining the object he has in view. We were informed, by the Government of Fort, St. George, in the letter which they wrote to us on this occasion, that the Company were not to be Subjected, thereby, to any expence, but that Mr. Corbett had their permission to draw his Allowance of 20 Pagodas Per Mensem at this Presidency.

#### Bombay

17. Our Proceedings in Relation to the Presidency of Bombay contain little matter worthy of your particular attention, you were apprized by our Advices Per Queen, of the manner in which we had Concluded an adjustment with the Securities for Mr. Mair's Contract for the Supply of 50,000 Bags of Rice at Bombay; and the only additional information which we have to communicate on that Subject, is that, having Consulted the Advocate General whether the Substitution of Mr. Cuthbert Fenwick for Mr. W. Hickey, as one of the Securities under the Contract in question, and the alteration in the mode of satisfying the Company upon it, did not render some new engagement necessary, he was of Opinion that such necessity did exist. New Bonds, adopted to the Changed Circumstances, have been accordingly executed by the Parties concerned.

18. In our late dispatches We informed you that your Government of Bombay, for reasons therein stated, were disposed to reject  
 Consn. 14 Decr. any of the Rice provided by Mr. Fairlie, under

his contract for the Supply of one Lack of Bags, if such Rice should not arrive at Bombay by the Stipulated Period Viz., the 31st of August 1791 and it afterwards appeared by a letter from Mr. Fairlie. Dated the 12th of December, and recorded on our Proceedings of the 14th of the same Month, that 8,000 Bags tendered by his Agents, had been rejected, as the Tender had not been made within the Time settled in his Contract.

19. The Instructions, which, in our address, by the Queen we informed you that we had transmitted to Bombay, on the Subject of Mr. Fairlie's Contract Rice, had not then reached that Presidency, or probably the rejection would not have taken place. We did not think proper to consent to Mr. Fairlie's exporting from hence, a quantity of Rice sufficient to make good the deficiency arising at Bombay from a rejection of the Number of Bags abovementioned; But we informed him that the deficiency might be supplied from purchases to be made by his Agent on the Spot, or that it might be settled here in adjusting the Account of the Contract.

20. We have the pleasure to acquaint you that we have now received Vouchers of the Delivery of 78,695 Bags of Rice upon the Contract, and that the Accounts of it are under Audit.

#### Fort Marlbro'

21. Two Proposals recorded on the Proceedings of the dates annexed, have been made to us by Mr. Edward  
 For: Marlbro' Coles and Mr. James Moore, (both belonging to  
 Consn. 18th Nov. your Service at Fort Marlbro') for the payment of  
 7th Decr. a Lack of Sicca Rupees, each, into the Treasury  
 at that place, on Condition of an Advance being made to them here-  
 in Protaissory Notes to those amounts bearing Interest at 8 Per-  
 Cent Per Annum, Mr. Coles undertaking to repay the sum, so Ad-  
 vanced in three equal Installments, at the periods of four, Eight and  
 Twelve Months, and Mr. Moore engaging to Repay the whole in Six  
 Months from the Conclusion of the Agreement, the rate of Exchange in  
 both Cases being 243 C. Rs. Per % Spanish Dollars.

22. Our Principal Inducement for complying, as we have done with these proposals, was the low State of the Treasury at Fort Marlbro' in consequence of the loss it suffered, upon the non-arrival of the Foulis, of the Produce which if no Accident had happened to that Ship, would have been obtained from the Opium sent upon it, and in consequence of the Disappointment reported to us by the Deputy Governor and Council to have been sustained by their not having received, this year, the Remittance of £ 10,000 usually sent to them, by order of your Hon'ble Court, from St. Helena.

23. We trust that you will be fully satisfied, on referring to our *Proceedings, of the annexed Dates, that no precaution in our power has been omitted to secure the Company against the possibility of loss in the event of either or both of the parties, who have engaged for this remittance, failing to fulfil their Agreements.*

24. The Conduct of Mr. E. Bagley, a Civil Servant on the Establishment of Fort Marlbro' appears, by a Letter from the Deputy Governor and Council of the 1st of July, to have  
*Const. 25 Novr.* drawn upon him very deservedly, the Censure of his Superiors, and to have reduced the latter to a Situation of some Embarrassment, as to the proper mode of proceeding against him.

25. It seems that Mr. Bagley, on account of various Instances of Misconduct had been long fixed in the Service, but, some time ago, was permitted, by Indulgence, to reside as Chief of Caroor, whence, however, his total neglect of his Duty, and a Deficiency in his Cash Account rendered it necessary to recall him. It was said that he was considerably indebted to the Company, and to Individuals, and that as, in these Cases, at Bencoolen, the Creditors have no Opportunity of legal Relief, they had applied to the Deputy Governor and Council for their Interference, upon which they demanded of him a full and just Statement of his Property. This Demand having been totally disregarded by Mr. Bagley, your Deputy Governor and Council requested that we would take measures to enable them legally to pursue such steps as might be necessary to enforce the Payment of his Debts to the Company and his other Creditors, as there was too much reason to suppose that he had Property, but withheld it in consequence of a Defect of legal Means to come at it.

26. The Stoppage of Mr. Bagley's public Allowances was the only remedy in the power of your Deputy Governor and Council at Fort Marlbro'; nor, could we Comply any further with the Application made to us, as above stated, than by referring the case to the Advocate General for his Opinion as to the Instructions proper to be given to the Government at Fort Marlbro' upon that Subject. His Opinion has not been yet received.

27. In the same letter, from Bencoolen, an application was made to us, in regard to the Orphans and Children of Non Commissioned Officers and privates doing duty there, to know on what footing such Children were to be considered, and what support they would be Entitled to from the Company, agreeable to the Rules of the Service. The Subject has been referred by us to the Deputy Governor and Managers of the Orphan Society, and it has been recommended

to their attention, if the Regulations of their Establishment will admit of their Providing for the care of the Children and Orphans in question.

28. Another proposition for raising a Corps of Goolundauz. or native Artillery, in Bengal for the Service of Fort Marlbro' was recommended by Captain Hamilton, Commanding Fort Marlbro' Proceeding 7th Decmr. Officer of the Troops at that Settlement and adopted by the Governor and Council. It was referred to Colonel Mackenzie, whose answer, which stands recorded on our Proceedings of the 7th Ultimo, makes it very evident that there are valid Objections to raising such a Corps here, tho' he has none to urge against it being raised amongst the Native of Sumatra. The Subject lies over at present, for Consideration.

29. The proceedings of the date above cited, contain a Memorial from the Officers of the Bengal Detachment, serving at Bencoolen, stating reasons at large why their present pay and allowances are insufficient for their Support. It has been referred to the Commander in Chief, whose opinion will guide our Orders on the Subject.

30. Our late advices from Fort Marlbro' having explained the uses for which Teak Timbers of the larger Sizes were required at that Residency, an advertisement was issued, by our directions in the Calcutta Gazette, on the 21st of December, inviting proposals for the Supply and delivery of the Different kinds, as specified in the Indent transmitted to us; and on the 6th Instant we proceeded to consider such proposals as had been received, when the lowest appearing to be that of Captain R. Wright, who also tendered satisfactory Security for the performance of his Engagement, we agreed to his Terms.

31. The Advertisement published on this occasion, attends you a number in the Packet. We have only to observe upon it that the Time of delivery has been extended from the 31st March to the 30th April, as all the proposers remarked that the former period was too limited, and, on Consulting professional persons, We found the remark to be just.

32. On your Ship Lord Hawkesbury which was dispatched on the 14th Instant we transmitted a supply of Stores for Bencoolen according to the accompanying List.

33. You were informed, by our late dispatches, of the absolute necessity there was from the failure of every hope respecting the Safety of the Foulis, to send one of the Ships of the present Season to Fort Marlbro', where two full cargoes of Pepper had been provided for Europe. The Asia being the Ship, which arrived the latest, was

that which we destined for this Service, and she would have been dispatched nearly about the same period as the Lord Hawkesbury, had it not been for an application, lately made to us by Mr. Moore, of the Council at Bencoolen, informing us of the pressing wants of that Settlement and its Subordinates for a Supply of Grain, which we agreed to send on the Asia, to the Extent of 4 or 5,000 Bags.

### Andamans

34. Your Honble. Court will observe, from Captain Blair's letter which is recorded on our Proceedings of the 25th of November, that  
 Consn. 25  
 November the Supplies of Cash, Stores, and Provisions, mentioned in our address by the Queen to have been transmitted to the Andamans, had been received. Captain Blair, you will also notice, Embraced the opportunity that offered, upon the dispatch of the Viper to Bengal, of complying with the instructions we had given him to forward a General Account of his Cash expenditure, as well as the Expenditure of Provisions and Stores.

35. To the Letter abovementioned, as well as to one since received, under date the 24th of November, We beg leave to refer  
 Consn 16th  
 December you, for such further information as is communicated by Captain Blair, who appears to be usefully employed in Exploring the Coasts of the Andamans as well as the Shoals and Banks, which render the Access to those Island difficult.

36. No communication, you will perceive, is made by Captain Blair, respecting the interior state of the Country, or the present Disposition of its Native Inhabitants. The only internal improvement, Noticed in these advices, is Contained in the last mentioned Letter, by which it appears that Captain Blair was employing labourers to clear and cultivate a piece of ground for the purpose of a Garden and plantation, and that its favorable soil and situation gave him hopes of its proving productive. No extra Expence is to be incurred, on account of this undertaking which eventually might be attended with loss both of labour and Expence, should Lord Cornwallis Concur in opinion with the Commodore that N. E. harbour is a preferable Station to that at present occupied by our people. The reference, which we made to his Lordship, on this subject, was mentioned in our advices by the Swallow Packet.

### Prince of Wales Island

37. In our Proceedings, noted in the Margin, a Letter is recorded from Mr. Light, bearing date the 1st of November, and transmitting  
 Prince of Wales  
 Island Proceedings  
 2nd. Decr. an Account of the sales of 200 Chests of Opium, which were sent to him last Year, and appear to have yielded a profit of Spanish Dollars 12,766.

38. At the period of our receipt of this Letter we had Consigned the usual Supply of 200 Chests of Opium to Mr. Light, as a Provision for the Expences of the Settlement under his charge; but, as he appeared to be of opinion that an addition of fifty Chests was necessary for that purpose, we complied with his application by a subsequent Conveyance.

39. We have also provided the Stores required by Mr. Light for the use of the Settlement according to an Indent that was Enclosed in his Letter of the 1st of November. On this Occasion we published an advertisement Inviting Proposals of freight, and such as were delivered, in Consequence were taken into Consideration by us on the 28th of December, Captain William Richardson's appearing to be the most favorable, we Concluded an Engagement with him, and the Vessel, on which stores are freighted, has taken her Departure.

40. Application having been made to us by Mr. Popham for our permission to Engrave and Publish, at the Expence of Individuals of this Settlement, the Chart of the new passage, Explored by him, near Prince of Wales Island, as noticed in our advices by the Queen. We were not aware of any objections, sufficiently powerful, to induce us to decline our Compliance, more particularly as the publication was likely to be attended with obvious advantages to Navigators Employed in the Trade to the Eastward; and discoveries of a similar kind, by Foreign Nations, as well as by our own, have generally been made public.

41. The Proceedings of a Court Martial held, on two Secunhies, for the Murder of their Commander, and his Servants, as transmitted by Mr. Light with his Letter of the 16th October,   
 Consn. 25th November were forwarded to Lord Cornwallis, who has lately approved the Sentence of the Court, and transmitted it to us to be forwarded by the earliest Opportunity to Prince of Wales Island.

#### Mint

42. The new Mint house having been Completed at an Expence (as will appear from our Proceedings Noted in the Margin) of Rs. 7235.1.1. the Mint Master applied to us, on the 31st of October, for the balance due, which was accordingly paid.   
 Consn. 18th November

43. An Advertisement was Published, by our direction, in the Calcutta Gazette, that all Gold and Silver Bullion, that might be delivered by Individuals at the Mint, or at the Treasury, under a

declaration from the Mint Master that it was of the proper standard, would be received; that Weight for Weight would be returned for it in the Current Gold or Silver of Calcutta, as long as the the State of the Treasury might be adequate to the Continuation of this accommodation to the Public; and that the Mint Masters Certificates above mentioned would be taken at the Khalsa as Cash in payment of the purchases of Opium.

44. But we were under the necessity of discontinuing the above accommodation, in Consequence of a report made to us by your Accountant General, on the 28th of December, that the balance in the Treasury amounted, in the Morning of that day, to only Ct. Rs. 37265.11, and the Sub Treasurer was directed to intimate to the Holders of the Mint Master's Certificates, that these could not be paid, from the Treasury, till the return of Money from the Mint should render the state of the former adequate to the renewal of the accommodation granted by the Advertisement of the 7th of December.

### Police

45. We apprized your Hon'ble. Court in our Dispatches by the Queen, of the alteration, we had been induced to make, in the system of Police, with the Causes which had rendered such alteration necessary and of our having entrusted the Temporary charge of that Department to Mr. Meyer.

46. On the 13th of December he pointed out the defective state of the Police Establishment, and proposed a new arrangement for it. We approved it and directed it might be carried into effect from the 1st of January 1792.

47. Another proposition, made to us by Mr. Meyer, was, that a regular scale of rewards should be Established for the discovery and apprehension of Persons guilty of Atrocious Crimes within the Town of Calcutta, the rewards to be paid on Conviction of the offender at the Sessions of Oyer and Terminer.

48. You will observe by referring to our resolution, on the subject of Mr. Meyers proposition, that we approved generally of the measure submitted to us, as well as of every part of the scale of rewards with a very trifling Exception.

49. In a Letter addressed to us, on the 23rd of December, Mr. Meyer laid a Proposition before us, for confining the Sale of Spirituous and fermented Liquors in Calcutta altogether, to Such Keepers only of Inns and Taverns as were Christians and should engage to accommodate, and entertain

Europeans only in their Houses. We have not yet come to any final decision upon this Subject, intending to refer it to the Judges, that we may have their opinion upon it, and sanction to it, as it involves a question upon which their Jurisdiction might operate against it, should they disapprove.

#### Supreme Court of Judicature and Law Officers

50. The Judges of the Supreme Court of Judicature, According to the Charter, Nominated to us these Persons, Messrs. Anthony Lambert, David Ross, and Colin Shakespeare of whom one was to be chosen by us to serve the Office of Sheriff for the present year. We made choice of Mr. Lambert for that Situation.

51. You will receive in this Dispatch an Address from Mr. Robert Morris, who arrived here in your Ship the Airly Castle.

52. We are much concerned to announce to your Hon'ble, Court the Death of Mr. Davies, your Advocate General, who filled that Station, for several years, with the highest Credit to himself, and Advantage to your Affairs.

53. The Nomination of a Successor to the vacant Office resting with the Governor General, agreeably to your Honorable Court's Permission under Date the 28th of April 1790, we have accordingly referred it to his Lordship. We have Reason to believe it will fall on Mr. Burroughs, your Standing Council, and we have the Satisfaction of adding that, from the Sentiments we ourselves entertain of Mr. Burrough's General Abilities and Character, and from the Estimation, in which he is held in the Court and at the Bar as well as from the Experience we have occasionally had of his Fitness for the very important and difficult Duties of the Office, our Regard for your Interests would point him out equally for our Selection.

#### Company's Servants

54. Mr. Charles Cockerell, who, some time since, obtained our permission to resign his Appointment of Post Master General, transmitted the usual Certificates, on the 15th and 19th December, that there were no pecuniary Claims against him and Signified his intention, with your approbation, of proceeding to Europe on the Ship Phoenix.

55. We complied with his request, and are induced to recommend to your Honorable Court that he may have your Permission to return with his rank to Bengal on his application to you for that Purpose.



56 A request for leave to proceed to Europe was made by Mr George Purling. It is proper to observe respecting this Gentleman that the period of two Months required by the regulations had not elapsed after he gave Notice of his intention to resign, but as it was well known to us that the Ship, on which he had taken his Passage was not then thought likely to be Dispatched so soon as it afterwards determined that she should be, and that there was no Claim of the Company to detain Mr Purling at the Presidency we agreed to accept his Resignation, and to permit him to proceed to England on the the Deptford and we beg leave to request that he may be allowed to return to Bengal, without prejudice to his Rank, on his applying for that Licence

57 We cannot help interesting your Attention on the subject of a Letter addressed to us by Mr Alexander Colvin in behalf of Mr Joseph Champion, a Senior Merchant in your Service. This Gentleman, in Consequence of our Permission, was accommodated with a Passage in the Queen to Europe tho' from the unfortunate, and we hope only temporary, suspension, of his mental faculties, it was not in his power to resign your service as would otherwise have been required. We have no reason to doubt the representation made by Mr Colvin, respecting the state of Mr Champion's pecuniary Circumstances, and we trust that there can be no impropriety in requesting that such provision may be made for his subsistence, by your Honble Court as the Circumstances of his Melancholy case may appear to require. We also beg leave to recommend that in the Event of Mr Champion's recovery he may be permitted to return to his duty in this Country without prejudice to his rank

#### Natives

58 In our late advices by the Queen we informed you of the Decease of the Nabob Mahomed Reza Khaun, and of the Temporary Relief we had afforded to his Eldest Son Dillawur Jung and the rest of his numerous family

59 No decision has yet been passed, by us, on the subject of the requests made to us by the late Nabob in his last moments, respecting the succession of his Eldest Son to the Office and allowances enjoyed by the former, but, in compliance with the Custom usual on such occasions, we directed Mr Harington, the Collector of Moorskedabad, and Paymaster of the Nizamut Stipends, to invest Dillawur Jung with a *Khellaub of Condolence* in the name of the Company. His Highness, the Nabob Mobareck ull Dowlah, was pleased to attend, in Person, at the Ceremony and to honor the

Nabob Dillawur Jung with the grant of the Neabut, a Distinction enjoyed by his Father, and of the highest Consequence in the Eyes of the Natives of this Country.

### Miscellanea

60. Our Proceedings of the 2nd of December contain letters addressed to us by the Banks of Bengal and Indostan, respectively, informing us of the great Embarrassment they were then exposed to, in consequence of the extraordinary demand made upon them for ready Money, which, in the case of the former, appeared to be so pressing as to have compelled the Managers to put a stop to their business, till a sufficient Sum in Specie could be obtained to enable them to carry on their Circulation. Both these institutions solicited our support, the amount required by the Bengal Bank, on loan for three Months, being Five Lacks of Sicca Rupees, and that requested by the Bank of Hindostan One Lack and a half, to be repaid in two Months.

61. As the Minute, which we recorded on this occasion, details our Sentiments very much at large on the Subject, and will attend you, with a Copy of our resolution in consequence, a number in the Packet, we shall only observe, in this place, that, upon a full consideration of all the circumstances of the case, we determined that, as guardians of your Interests in this Country, involved as they were in a high Degree, in the instances before us, with the welfare of the Community, we could not refuse the assistance required of us consistently with a due regard to either.

62. You will perceive by the resolutions that we passed, the terms on which we acceded to the Requests of the two Banks, and the precautions we observed to guard against the possibility of loss accruing to the Company from the accommodation we had granted.

63. The Situation of the Affairs of the Bengal Bank would not admit of the proprietors availing themselves of our Acquiescence in their Request, and the Loan to them was accordingly not issued. That to the Bank of Indostan was advanced, and has been since faithfully replaced in your Treasury.

64. The Embarrassment, in which the Bengal Bank was involved, became the occasion of an address from the Mint Master, which you will find recorded on our Proceedings of the 2d of December, together with a Notice to him not to pay to any person, except to Mr. Thomas Willing Francis, the produce of Forty seven thousand Three hundred and Eighteen

Dollars delivered by Mr. Benjamin Mee of the Bengal Bank, to the Mint, for the purpose of its being refined and Coined into Sicca Rupees. Mr. Francis, on this occasion, stated Mr. Mee to have been his Agent, or broker only, in the Transaction, and offered an indemnification to the Mint Master, in Case of his being prosecuted for complying with the demand now made upon him.

65. The opinion of the Advocate General being called for in the Case, we were entirely guided by his Advice in the directions we gave upon the subject.

66. The distressed situation of some of the lower Class of Public Native Servants, owing to the late period, at which their allowances could be issued, according [to] the regulations that were passed on the 9th of December 1790, and 21st of January 1791. which prohibited the Payment of all Salaries, exceeding 6 Sa. Rs. Per Mensem, in the Revenue and Commercial Departments, until the Liquidation of the Salaries, payable by the Civil Paymaster at the Presidency, for the same Month, shall have been notified in the Calcutta Gazette, having been brought before us, we determined, with a View to their relief, that the prohibition should be restricted to allowances exceeding Sa. Rs. 50 Per Mensem, and that in future all allowances in the Civil Department, for any particular Month, above 6, and not exceeding 50 Sa. Rs. Per Mensem should be issuable with that for the Army.

67. We have been sorry to observe the frequent Instances that have lately occurred, of Murder Committed on the high Seas, which  
 Consn. 25 Novr. is the more to be lamented when such melancholy  
 28 Decr. Events have a relation to Vessels belonging to the Ports of the Country, as there is no Jurisdiction, in Bengal, Competant to try such Offences. On a reference to the Proceedings Noted in the Margin, two Cases of the kind in question present themselves. and we have been under the Necessity of ordering the accused, as well as the Witnesses, to Madras, where the former may take their Trial before the Admiralty Court there Established.

68. Messrs. Lambert and Ross, in a letter recorded on the  
 Consn. 25 Novr. Proceedings of the annexed date, advised us that they were fitting out, at their private expence, on a Voyage to the North West Coast of America, two Vessels of the Burthens of 160 and 100 Tons, and they took this occasion to bring before us that, as the Natural Productions, as well as the Manners and Customs of the Native Inhabitants of this remote and Interesting Country were still very imperfectly known, it would probably

add very much to the general Stock of knowledge as well as give a greater degree of Certainty to Commercial Enterprize, were they properly investigated by Men of Learning and Science.

69. For Effecting the above very laudable purpose, Messrs. Lambert and Ross made the liberal offer of accommodating with a Passage, free of Expencc, one or two Gentlemen, who might be Deputed by us to make such researches, or to take Views and Surveys of the Coasts and Harbours. A Copy of the above address having been transmitted to Lieutenant Colonel Kyd, the Nature of whose pursuits and General habits might enable him to point out a person duly qualified for such an undertaking, he replied to the reference, in a Letter dated the 7th of December, and Delivered it as his opinion, that, altho there were many Gentlemen, both  
 Consn. 14 Decr. in the medical and Military lines, possessing the necessary requisites for such a Commission, it would still be a matter of difficulty to prevail upon any person to undertake it, unless a longer time were allowed him to prepare for it.

70. On referring to the letter addressed to us by Lieutenant Colonel Kyd, your Honble. Court will observe that he took that opportunity of pointing out an object, which he remarked might be considered as being of more immediate National importance, and more immediately Connected with the Views of the East India Company, than the undertaking proposed by Messrs. Lambert and Ross, which was the introduction into Bengal of the best Species of Coffee, only attainable from Arabia.

71. For the express purpose of procuring the Plant directly from Mocha, Colonel Kyd proposed that a small Vessel should be engaged, Completely adapted to the Service, and to be furnished (without any other expence to the Company than the Temporary charge of sailing) by an individual of the Settlement. We Coincided in opinion with Colonel Kyd upon the consequence of the object, and, as it appeared from a subsequent explanation, which we received from him that the charge of pay and Victualling for the Ship's Company, for Six Months, (the supposed duration of the Voyage) would not exceed 500 or 600 Rupees Per Mensem, we Consented to the proposition. We shall hereafter inform your Honble. Court of the result of the undertaking.

72. In our address, Per Queen, you were informed of the Communication made to us by Lieutenant Colonel Kyd, on the subject, of the Cossada Plant, and we now, by  
 Consn. 9 Decr. continuation of the same subject, beg leave to refer

you to our proceedings of the date annexed, where you will find, recorded, a Circular letter, which has been forwarded to the several Collectors, requiring them to report their Opinions on the subject of the Cultivation of this Plant, in small plantations, allotted to that Purpose, in the first instance, at the Company's expence, till it shall have been generally propagated by the Natives throughout the provinces.

73. Another Letter, from Lieutenant Colonel Kyd, is recorded on our proceedings of the 25th of last Month. It relates to the fate of a number of fruit Trees, forwarded by the Asia  
 Consn. 25 Novr. from England, which appeared to have perished from the want of proper care on board that Ship. The list of the Plants, which were lost by these means, is annexed to Lieutenant Colonel Kyd's letter, and, as he intends to renew his application for a fresh Assortment to be sent to him by the Ships of the ensuing Season, we beg leave to recommend that particular directions may be given, by your Honble. Court, to such of the Commanders, as may be Entrusted with the charge of them.

74. Two Chests, containing specimens of the furs of the different Animals, Natives of Hindostan, are forwarded, by this Conveyance, and a letter which accompanied them, from Lieutenant Colonel Kyd will be transmitted a number in the Packet. It is the less necessary to solicit, at this Time, your attention to it, as the particular species of natural production, which is the subject of it; was, by the Orders contained in your Letter of 6th May last pointed out as an object worthy of research.

75. A Memorial to your Honble. Court, from Mr. Thomas Marriott, who has resided many years in Bengal, with your permission, and held different Employments under the  
 Consn. 16 Decr. Government, tho' not in your immediate Service, attends you a Number in the Packet.

76. Mr. John Hall's report on the Stationery, imported on the Dutton, is recorded on the proceedings noted in the Margin. We  
 Consn. 7 Decr. are concerned to observe that it is not much more favorable than that which was made upon the Stationery received by the Phoneix.

77. In the present Instance, we directed that specimens of each description of Stationery, imported on the Dutton, and best in quality, should be submitted to a particular inspection, and we were

## LETTER DATED 27 APRIL 1792

*Complaint about the quality of Patna opium—rice supplies—fortifications on Prince of Wales Island—copies of commentary on Muslim laws—Canton remittances—request for grain by the Nawab of Arcot—embargo on export of grain—Mair's case—supply of funds to Bombay—loan to meet war expenses—case of Bagley—Madras piece-goods for Sumatra—Popham's chart of South Channel—supplies to New South Wales—reform of police administration—appointment of Burroughs as Advocate General—Nizamat debts—Kyd and importation of coffee plants from Mooha.*

TO the Honble, the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble the United Company of Merchants of England Trading to the East Indies.

Honble Sirs,

1. By your Ship Dutton which is the last of the present Season. We have the Honor to forward to you our Annual Set of Consultations in this Department for the year 1791, and with it the Continuation of our Proceedings for the Months of January and February, being subsequent to those that were dispatched by the Kent. They are sent with their Indexes, and the other Papers mentioned in the List of the Packet.

2. We have had the honor to receive, since the date of our last advices by the Kent your Letter of the 4th of August 1791, and your Separate Letter on the Subject of the Finances.

3. Our Answer to the former will now be laid before you, but with respect to the latter, we have agreed to suspend our reply to it until after the return of Lord Cornwallis to Bengal, when the State of your Affairs, on the Conclusion of the War with Tippoo Sultan will be more fully and exactly set forth than it can be at the present Time.

Answer to the Public General Letter Dated the 4th of August 1791  
Per Canada

- |   |   |                    |
|---|---|--------------------|
| 4. Par. 1st. Date of last advices.              | } | Require no Answer. |
| 2. Noticing Paragraphs not requiring any Reply. |   |                    |
|   |   |                    |

Par. 8th. Mr. Hamilton's Plan for procuring teak Timbers from the Rajah-mundry Forests for the use of Bengal, deserving of encouragement, but *not to extend to any exclusive privilege.* Referred to the Madras Government for their ultimate determination.

8. Par. 9th. Noticing Paragraphs that do not require any reply.

Par. 10th. Approving of the late Contracts for supplying Bombay and Tellicherry with Rice, also of the indulgence shewn to Captain Richardson.

Par. 11th. Opinion of the Advocate General on a question, whether, in the Absence of the Governor of Fort St. George or Bombay, the place of a third Member of Government can be supplied in the Sessions and at the Court of Appeals, under Consideration.

Par. 12th. Settlement made by the Resident at Banarres with the House of Bowanny Doss and Monohur Doss for a Monthly remittance of 3 Lacs of Rupees to Bombay approved.

Par. 13th. Noticing Paragraphs that do not require any Reply.

Do not require any answer.

9. Par. 14th. Fortifications to be erected on Prince of Wales Island to be no more than is Absolutely necessary to secure the Establishment from insult during the Contentions existing. Nor any expence to be incurred exceeding an estimate approved by Council.

The Instruction contained in this Paragraph has been particularly noticed in our Orders to the Superintendent of Prince of Wales' Island.

10. Par. 15th. Final Directions will be given respecting the new Settlement at the Andamans, when the Report of Commodore Cornwallis, and the Surveys of Captain Kyd and Lieutenant Blair shall have been received.

We are much concerned that it is not yet in our power to furnish you with the Reports herein mentioned; but we shall be careful to transmit them *whenever* they may be laid before us.

11. Par. 16th. Approve of the alterations in the mode of stating the Commercial Establishments.

Par. 17th. Regulations for the Payment of the Interest on Promissory Notes and Certificates appear proper.

Par. 18th. Noticing Paragraphs that do not require any Reply.

Do not require any answer.

Par. 19th. Approve of the appropriation of the stipend of the Nabob Mobarreul Dowlah; shall be happy to hear that the plan has received the Nabob's acquiescence.



Par 20th Concur in the propriety of the appropriation of a portion of the late Rajah Dirjenarain's Stipend

Par 21st Approve of the Compliance with the request of the Sister of the late Meer Jaffier for transferring her Monthly Allowance to her Grand Son under the restriction mentioned

Par 22nd Needs no reply

Par 23d Approve of Oswald Dykes Jackson and Henry Pine being sent to Europe

Do not require any answer

12 Par 24th Admit the allowance of 60 Rs Per Month to Moonshees for the Free School None to be made in future without previous sanction obtained from home

The Order contained in this Paragraph will be duly attended to

13 Par 25th. Mr Lambert's Letter upon the Subject of Sugar and Arrack can not be replied to until the final decision of the Board is received

Does not require any answer

14 Par 26th Approve of Mr Burroughs's appointment to the Office of Standing Council on the death of Mr Simpson but in the event of the Office of Advocate General becoming vacant it is not to be permanently filled without the Concurrence of Honble Court of Directors

The Appointment of Advocate General was actually vacant by the Death of Mr Davies at the time that your Orders contained in this Paragraph were received The Appointment of a Successor to that Office will be noticed in a subsequent part of this Address

15. Par. 27th. Noticing Paragraphs that do not require any reply.

Par. 28th. Short Letter of the 16th November 1790, Public Department, Needs no particular Reply.

Require no Answer.

16. Par. 29th. In Order to enable Government to Prosecute the War with Vigor and Success, remove altogether the restriction of applying the Money to be received for Bills on the Company to the Discharge of Bonds, leaving it entirely to the Discretion of Government to apply the proceeds as shall seem most expedient, for the liquidation of any description of Debt whatsoever.

Par. 30th. Notwithstanding the above discretionary power, given under an apprehension that the heavy expence of the War may render the same absolutely necessary, it is yet hoped that a part of the Sum may be allotted to the liquidation of Old Debts.

Par. 31st. Individuals encouraged to send out Bullion, and every possible means used to strengthen the Treasury. The Subject to be more fully discussed by the first Ships of the ensuing Season.

We have the pleasure to acquaint you that we have not had any Occasion to exercise the Discretion given to us in these Paragraphs.

- 17 Par 32nd Mr Thomas Graham appointed Provisional Member of the Supreme Council to succeed on the first Vacancy
- Mr Graham was furnished with a Copy of this Paragraph and was had the Honor to transmit an address from him to your Honble Court on the Subject of it, by the Kent
- 18 Par 33rd Act passed for establishing and confirming further powers to the Governor General while his Lordship shall be on the Coast of Coromandel or Malabar
- Requires no answer
- 19 Par 34th London Gazette of the 18th June 1791 contains Resolutions of the Court respecting Persons found guilty of illicit Trade
- The Resolutions mentioned in this Paragraph were published in the Gazette and have been duly attended to
- 20 Par 35th Recommendation for the Increase of Salary to several of the Officers of Government cannot at present be attended to
- Par 36th Annuity given to Mr Lacam of £600 for his own life with a reversion of 400£ to his Widow if she Survives him in addition to the Sums already advanced him at home and in India
- Do not require any Answer
- 21 Par 37th Lieutenant Charles Hamilton and James Anderson<sup>1</sup> permitted to publish at the Company's expence an Edition of their Translation of a Commentary on the Musselman Laws
- We have not yet received the 20 Set of the Commentary on the Musselman Laws But under a supposition that a Box of Books which was received from Madras by the *Asia* upon Nautical and Astronomical Subjects was forwarded hither by mistake in lieu of a Box containing

20 Sets sent by the Airly Castle for the use of the Servants.

the work above mentioned, we directed our Secretary to desire that the latter might be sent from Fort St. George. It does not appear, however, to have arrived at that Presidency.

### Canton

22. You were advised, in our Dispatches by the Kent, Paragraph 2, of the Reasons that induced us to decline accepting any of the Tenders of Remittances to be realized in China  
 Consn. 15th Feby. in the ensuing year. Some Proposals, however, having been made to us on Terms very advantageous to the Company, as well in Point of Exchange as of Security, and as we had reason to believe that, notwithstanding prosperous State of  
 Consn. 14th March the China Treasury, Lord Cornwallis's Opinion favored a Remittance of a Part of the Supply originally intended to have been sent to Canton, the Subject was again brought before us.

23. To the View of the China Treasury, as it was reported by the Supra Cargoes, some considerations were opposed, the Probability of an encreased number of Ships being sent from England to receive Investments of Goods that have been found, since the Trade was enlarged, to yield such Advantageous Returns to the Company, the Importance of obviating the Possibility of Disappointment in the Means of providing those Investments, especially as the Resource by Bills on England was likely, if resorted to, to fail by the Measure, which the Supra Cargoes adopted, of lowering the Exchange, and the Convenience which the Merchants would derive from our taking their Bills to enable them to draw back to their uses in Bengal the Value of their Trade, which was lying in China, and had been sent there in the expectation that a Remittance would be made, as usual, on the Part of the Company.

24. The two first Considerations had due Weight with us and we thought the last entitled to the greater Attention on Account of the present State of mercantile Credit, in this Country which required all the Encouragement that we could safely give to support and strengthen it.

Current Rupees to be paid for in Promissory Notes bearing 8 Per Cent Interest the Notes remaining here in Deposit in our Treasury, as Security, until advice should arrive that the Bills had been honoured

26 The Accountant General's Report upon these Terms of Remittance was so favorable that we induced to accept them, and we passed a Resolution declaring that any Proposals made by other Merchants, on similar Conditions, should be Open for Consideration. They were afterwards brought before us to an amount exceeding that to which we had proposed to confine the Remittance, Vizt. 20, or at most 22 Lacks of Current Rupees, 20 Lacks being the Sum Originally designed to have been sent this Season to China but we did not think proper to agree to a larger Supply than 22 Lacks, including what was paid by Mr Lacatelli into the China Treasury for Bills upon this Government in December 1791, as mentioned in the 3rd Paragraph of our General Letter by the Kent.

#### Fort St George and Subordinates

27 Our Correspondence in this Department with the Presidency of Fort St George and its Subordinates, as you will perceive in the

Consn 4th Jany	Proceedings to which we refer, still continues to be
11th Jany	chiefly confined to their Wants of Rice, especially
13th Jany	in the Northern Circars, which we have supplied
20th Jany	and are in the course of supplying to the extent of
25th Jany	two Lacks of Bags, a quantity for exceeding any
30th Jany	that till of late (our own Prospects having become
Consn 8th Feby	rather more favorable) we could have been war-
10th Feby	ranted in exporting from this Country
15th Feby	
22nd Feby	
29th Feby	

28 When the urgent call upon us to Send Supplies of Grain to the Northern Circars first arose Mr Speke Agreed, at our Request to give the necessary Orders for Providing and dispatching them, and he has laid before us a Minute detailing His proceedings on the occasion. A Copy of the Minute will be sent a Number in the Packet and as it contains an accurate Statement of the motives which induced the Board to adopt the measure as well as of the manner in which it has been executed we beg your particular Attention to it in the confidence that you will under all the circumstances of the case see reason to approve both of one and the other. The papers referred to by Mr Speke do not at present accompany his minute, because neither the Receipts of all the Grain which appears to have been delivered being yet officially Certified, nor Mr Tylers Account being yet adjusted or reported on by the Accountant General we think these Documents too imperfect to be Submitted to your Honble Court

29. His Highness the Nabob of Arcot requested, in Letters to Mr. Stuart some Weeks ago that, as there was a Cons. 2nd March Scarcity of Grain at Madras, and his Dependants would in consequence suffer much inconvenience, we would send him a large supply by the Persons charged with his Letters, who he said, would defray the Expence. They were the Commanders of two Country Ships who were, each, to take him Six Thousand Bags. It was very apparent that the applications arose more from a Desire to serve those Captains, whose Ships, during the Embargo, might be detained here from want of Freight, than any real distress, and we did not think it would be right to yield to these partial Indulgences. Besides, we knew that altho' a scarcity of Rice was apprehended at Madras, for a short Time, they were not absolutely in any Distress at that Presidency.

30. One of the Commanders of the Ships has, however, been allowed to take a thousand Bags of the finest Rice as a Compliment to the Nabob, and Mr. Stuart has explained to His Highness the Reason that prevented us from complying fully with his request.

31. In our Proceedings of the annexed date you will observe a Cons. 4th Jany. Resolution directing the Custom Master to refuse permission to the Export of Grain by the River to any part of the Country without Authority from Government, such an Order being necessary as well to secure a sufficient Supply in Calcutta for the Consumption of its numerous Inhabitants, as to prevent a Clandestine Trade in that Article, by circuitous Passages with an ultimate Purpose of exportation to Sea, by which the Object in laying the Embargo, still necessary, would in a great measure have been defeated.

32. The Vessels trading annually from the Maldivia Islands to Chittagong were allowed to carry out the usual quantity of Rice, about 3,000 Maunds, in Consideration of the Benefit derived Cons. 4th Jany. to that Province from the Couries, which are the only Article of Import from the Maldivias, and are of such general Circulation in that part of the Country, and indeed throughout Bengal as to render it a matter of policy not to discourage the Natives of the Islands from continuing an Intercourse, which has subsisted for a great Length of Time.

33. Your Honble. Court will observe throughout our Consultations for the Months of January and February various Applications for Permission to export grain on the plea of the Vessels, on which it was laden, having received port clearances prior to the Embargo. These have never been decided upon in favour of the Petitioner, without an express Condition that the Cargoes should be delivered at

Current Rupees, to be paid for in Promissory Notes bearing 8 Per Cent Interest, the Notes remaining here in Deposit in our Treasury, as Security, until advice should arrive that the Bills had been honoured.

26. The Accountant General's Report upon these Terms of Remittance was so favorable that we induced to accept them; and we passed a Resolution declaring that any Proposals made by other Merchants, on similar Conditions, should be Open for Consideration. They were afterwards brought before us to an amount exceeding that to which we had proposed to confine the Remittance, Vizt. 20, or at most 22 Lacks of Current Rupees, 20 Lacks being the Sum Originally designed to have been sent this Season to China, but we did not think proper to agree to a larger Supply than 22 Lacks, including what was paid by Mr. Lacatelli into the China Treasury for Bills upon this Government in December 1791, as mentioned in the 3rd Paragraph of our General Letter by the Kent.

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29th Feby.	

28. When the urgent call upon us to Send Supplies of Grain to the Northern Circars first arose Mr. Speke Agreed, at our Request, to give the necessary Orders for Providing and dispatching them, and he has laid before us a Minute detailing His proceedings on the occasion. A Copy of the Minute will be sent a Number in the Packet and as it contains an accurate Statement of the motives which induced the Board to adopt the measure, as well as of the manner in which it has been executed, we beg your particular Attention to it in the confidence that you will under all the circumstances of the case, see reason to approve both of one and the other. The papers referred to by Mr. Speke do not at present accompany his minute, because neither the Receipts of all the Grain which appears to have been delivered, being yet officially Certified, nor Mr. Tylers Account being yet adjusted or reported on by the Accountant General, we think these Documents too imperfect to be Submitted to your Honble. Court.

39. We determined as the Period for the final Delivery of the Rice at Bombay was passed, to refuse our Permission to any further Exports for this Contract, and that a Space of three Months, Calculated from the 15th of February, should be allowed for the Receipt of Accounts from thence of the deliveries there and on the Malabar Coast, upon the two Engagements with Mr. Mair.

40. We also instructed the Bombay Government to furnish us with the fullest and best authenticated Statements of those deliveries, and with a Report of the Result of the Measures they were desired to take in respect to the Consignments detained by Mr. Adamson, as well as generally with all such information as would enable us to come to a final adjustment with the Securities.

41. Upon a reference to the 80th Paragraph of our address from this Department by the Queen it will be observed by your Honble. Court that Mr. Mair's Smaller Contract (or that for 50,000 Bags of Rice) was not to be completed by deliveries at Bombay, but by Payments in Money into our Treasury hereafter the Quantum of the Demand should have been Settled by Arbitration. Mr. John Lew is Auriol has been Appointed on this Occasion to Arbitrate for the Company, and Mr. James Edward Colebrooke has been chosen to Arbitrate for the Securities, but they cannot proceed in the Business till the information required from your Presidency of Bombay shall have been obtained.

42. We have the Pleasure to acquaint you that we have been advised by a late Letter from Bombay that the Markets there were abundantly supplied with Rice, in so much that the Governor in Council had been enabled to send eighty thousand Bags to Cannanore and Tellicherry for the use of the Army, and to hold in Readiness the further Quantity of Sixty thousand Bags subject to the disposal of Lord Cornwallis and General Abercromby if it should be wanted.

43. We were advised by the Government of Bombay that they depended on our adopting some regular Mode of Supplying them with Money, as they expected but little further Assistance, there, on Terms advantageous to the Company, from drawing upon us. We were also advised by the Resident of Poona that Advances, which he attributed to Rivalship among the Shroffs, had been made to him, for affording Supplies either occasionally, or to any given Amount Monthly, for the Service of the Bombay Presidency.

44. Upon a reference of this subject to the Accountant General, he delivered in a Report in Conformity to which We have agreed to instruct Sir Charles Warre Malet to enter conditionally into an



an English Port, and taking Security for that Purpose, but of late such Applications have become so frequent as to make it a matter of necessity for us to set limits to our Compliance.

34. The Hon<sup>ble</sup>. Mr. Cochrane desired our Permission to Ship Four thousand Bags of Wheat, and two thousand Bags of Rice and Peas for the Supply of His Majesty's Squadron at Madras, and he promised that, if we thought it necessary to have any Security that the Provisions should bonafide be applied to the use of the Squadron, he was willing to furnish it. We agreed to comply with the request upon the proposed Securities being given. It was so, and the Grain has been dispatched.

35. In the Proceedings of the Council at Fort St. George your Honble. Court will Notice the Proscription which has been issued at that Presidency against Captain Joseph McIntosh, of the Ship Fitzallium, and his three Officers Messrs. Jesen Cook, Alexander Hume and George Byrne. The particulars of the flagrant delinquency of those Persons, as detected and detailed by Captain Foote of His Majesty's Sloop Ariel, will form a separate Number in this Packet.

36. It is further necessary to acquaint you that, upon the Receipt of the Papers, we had no hesitation in determining that the Proscription ordered at Madras against these Defaulters should extend to Bengal in the Case of their coming to this Part, and an Advertizement was issued accordingly.

### Bombay

37. Mr. Fairlie, who contracted for the Supply of the Bombay Presidency with 1,00,000 Bags of Rice, having informed us, on the 5th of January, that his Contract was completed;

Cons. 8th Feby. and the Accountant General to whom the Subject was referred, having reported to us that the Account furnished by Mr. Fairlie corresponded with the Receipts granted by the Storekeepers at the several Places at which the Rice had been delivered, the Balance that appeared due to him was paid.

38. Messrs. Perreau and Pallng, the Acting Securities under Mr. Mair's Contract, for the Supply of Bombay  
Cons. 15th Feby. with 75,000 Bags of Rice, acquainted us, on the 13th of February, that they had actually Shipped 40,425 bags on Account of that engagement, and they stated the Reasons which had prevented the entire Execution of it by the Stipulated Time, the 31st of last December.

two to three Lacks of Bombay Current Rupees, upon Loan at Interest to the Government General till the 31st of December 1795, at the Rate of 12 Per Cent Per Annum, and bearing compound Interest, provided that, at the expiration of that Period, he might have Bills drawn in his favour on Government in Europe, payable Twelve Months after date, at the rate of 2s/3d per Bombay Current Rupee, and that the Interest should commence upon such Sums so advanced from the Date of each payment, which should be at least fifty thousand Rupees in each Successive Month after the Receipt of an Answer to the Proposal, provided that such Answer should be communicated to him within six Weeks, or Sooner if Possible, from the Date of his Letter.

50. The Extravagance of this Proposal was obvious; but we allowed it to follow the Course of other Proposals on pecuniary Subjects, and referred it to the Accountant General, whose Observations upon it will be sent among the Papers of the Packet. We have acquainted the Resident at Tellicherry that we could not authorize an Acceptance of the Offer made by Mr. Shaw, and we have signified this Resolution to the Governor General that other Means may be devised for supplying the Army under General Abercromby with Money.

51. We have also communicated it to the Government of Bombay, whose Drafts upon us, which have amounted to no less a Sum, within the last Six Months, ending with 29th February 1792, than CRs. 30,74,297. 4. 7. should, we suppose, with the Aid of their own Resources, and the Supplies afforded them by the Resident at Poonah and from the Drafts on the Peshwah in their favor go far to defray all Demands upon them of whatever kind.

52. The Accountant General, in his Report upon Mr. Shaw's Proposal, having taken that Occasion to Offer a Suggestion relative to the Money Loan, which has been raised here at the Interest of 12 Per Cent Per Annum, Payable in Six Months after Date, but held subject to the liquidation of any Part of it upon a Notice of ten Days, we are induced to say some thing upon the Subject in this Place.

53. The Loan amounts at present to CRs. 78,95,592. 9. 6. and we are solicitous to provide for the Payment of it, and to discontinue the Loan altogether, not only because the higher Interest, which it bears, is an inconvenient Charge, but because, while the Loan goes on, and the Debt at present incurred upon it remains unliquidated, the Holders of the Promissory Notes, bearing the lower Interest of 8 Per Cent Per Annum, and the Holders of the Certificates at 6, are kept out of the Receipt of so much as could

Engagement with Shroffs for the supply of Bombay, Monthly, with such a sum as the Exigencies of that Government may require, without conditioning for the whole of the Supply wanted throughout the year in order to obviate, what would in all likelihood otherwise happen a League among the Shroffs to make oppressive Exactions on the Merchants trading between the Ports of Bombay and Calcutta

45 A Copy of the Accountant General's Report will be sent a Number in the Packet.

46 At the request of the Bombay Government, we submitted to the Judges of the Supreme Court of Judicature some Papers that were received from that Presidency involving Points of legal Doubt, upon which they desired the Judge's Opinion One of the Questions arose from a Plea made by the Counsel of Ensign Hugh Massey Fitzgerald arraigned for the Murder of one Sheriff Ally and another was whether any of the Pleas presented by one Gopaul Wasta against a Judgement's being passed against him at the Quarter Sessions upon his having been convicted of Perjury, were sufficient to quash, or set aside the Indictment under which he was prosecuted

47 We were also induced, at the Desire of the Bombay Government to request the Judges to remove a Doubt upon another Subject. Vizt whether, in the Absence of the President, the Acting President for the Time being can call together Commissioners for holding Courts of Admiralty under the express Limitation of His Majesty's Commission

48 We received the Opinion of the Judges upon the two first Points submitted to them and we communicated it to the Government of Bombay, but as the Judges had not by them a Copy of His Majesty's Commission for holding Courts of Admiralty at Bombay, they were not able to say any thing upon the Question arising from it We have desired a Copy from the other side of India

49 The Resident at Tellicherry, in a Letter dated the 23rd of January advised us that General Abercromby had communicated to him the Sentiments of Lord Cornwallis respecting the Possibility of borrowing Money at Bombay for the Army upon the Faith of Government, in the same manner as was practised at Calcutta, and that he was therefore induced to submit a Proposal from Mr Shaw, which was expressed as follows That he would engage to pay into the Treasury of Government at Bombay and Tellicherry as might be most convenient to him from

57. We have also instructed your Deputy Governor and Council to bring forward Regular Charges of Neglect of duty and Misconduct against Mr. Bagley, who, on his failing to answer such Charges in a Satisfactory manner, is, by our directions, to be suspended from your Service until the pleasure of your Honble. Court shall be known.

58. In our late advices we notice a Memorial which had been received from the Officers of the detachment, Serving at Fort Marlbro' Stating the insufficiency of their present Allowances for their Support, and we mentioned that the Memorial had been referred to Lord Cornwallis. His Lordship has Since favoured us with his Sentiments on the Subject, and, as these intirely Coincide with our own, you will observe that, in our Letter to Fort Marlbro', we have declined to grant the additional Allowances, requested by the Officers doing duty at that Station, without the express Sanction of your Honble Court.

59. With a view, however, to relieve the Officers from the inconveniences of which they complain, arising Chiefly from the expensiveness of living we have agreed to adopt the Measure, recommended by Lord Cornwallis, of a Regular Annual Relief of all the Officers, with the exception of the Officer commanding at the Station, who enjoying a Specific allowance, granted to him by your Honble. Court, and being also a Member of the Council at that Residency, has our permission to continue there till the arrival of Major Murray, unless he shall signify his wish to be relieved at the same time with other officers.

60. Your Ship the Asia having received on Board the greater Part of the Supply of Rice for Fort Marlbro' of which we advised you in our last Dispatches, and 58 recruits to complete the Sepoy Corps at that Residency, was Dispatched on the 8th February with permission to touch at Fort St. George. Very Particular instructions were given to Captain Foulkes, respecting the treatment to be observed by him, and all other persons under his Command, to the Sepoys during the Passage; and your Deputy Governor and Council were enjoined to make Strict enquiry into, and report to us, the nature of that treatment.

61. We beg leave to transmit to you, numbers in the Packet, a Copy of a Letter, dated the 15th of last Month which we received from Mr. Manington, and Copies of the Papers transmitted to us with it, and entitled.

"A General Indent of an Assortment of Piece Goods from the Coromandel Coast, proper for the yearly Consumption of the Company's Settlements on Sumatra."

otherwise be spared for the gradual Discharge of those Descriptions of Paper, which stand upon the General Register, and are now unpaid to a later Date than the 20th of February 1789, but as at this Season of the year, and for some Months to come, the Collections from the Land Revenue are, and will be, more limited than at any other Period, and we are anxious to provide, as we have agreed to do for the Completion of the Order of Investment last received from Europe, we are obliged to go on with the Loan bearing the larger Interest, which however will be stopped as soon as Circumstances will admit. In general, the Holders of the Notes upon this Loan are rather desirous that their Money should remain with the Company, looking to the better Security of your Treasury altho' their Funds might be invested as advantageously, as to the Rate of Interest, by loans to Individuals, or employed in Speculations of different kinds

54 You will observe that the Accountant General, in his Letter abovementioned, takes notice that the Optional Clause, in the Notes of 12 Per Cent, which leaves the Company at liberty to pay them off upon a Notice of ten Days to the Holders affords us the Means of reducing the Rate of Interest in Proportion as we may find Individuals disposed to lend their Money at a lower, but that, until we are in Possession of as much as our immediate Occasions require, it might not be advisable to attempt the reduction of Interest below its present Standard, since if, as is the Case, a Sufficiency cannot be obtained at 12 Per Cent, it cannot be expected that the Loans will be increased if a less Interest be Offered

55 The Conclusion is Obvious, supposing the Premises equally certain, but of this we are by no means quite convinced, and, if we find ourselves right in our Conjecture, and that the Conclusion of the War, by lowering our Expences, shall enable us to attempt a Reduction of the Interest on the Loan now at 12 Per Cent we shall do so

#### Fort Marlbro'

56 Since the date of our Dispatches by the Kent Mr Burroughs, your Standing Council, has delivered his Opinion on the question referred to us, from Fort Marlbro', concerning Mr Bagley, a Civil Servant on that Establishment the nature of whose misconduct was explained in our last address Mr Burroughs's Opinion is recorded on the Proceedings of the date annexed, and you will observe by our last Letter to Fort Marlbro' (a Copy of which is sent a Number in the Packet) that we have directed that the measure recommended of Securing Mr Bagley's property, for the purpose of doing justice to the Company and his other Creditors, shall be adopted

Fort Marlbro  
Proceedings 8th  
Febry

67. It was submitted to us that Material Advantage might be derived to the Mercantile Part of the Settlement, trading to the Eastward, from our allowing the Chart of the Passage to be engraved, and, as we saw no objection, of sufficient Weight, to this Proposal, we readily agreed to comply with it. Mr. Popham has since furnished us with some of the Copies engraved here under his Directions, and we shall transmit one of them in the Packet of the Dutton.

### New South Wales

68. Lieutenant Bowen of his Majesty's Navy, Agent arrived here on the 6th of February, in the King's Store Ship Atlantic charged with a Letter to Lord Cornwallis from Governor Phillip of new South Wales, and Particular Instructions for his Guidance, as Naval Agent in procuring Supplies for that Settlement.

69. Having executed the Commission entrusted to him, he left Bengal on the 30th of last Month on his return to the Colony, and we delivered to his Care a Letter to the Governor, in which we have recited so fully the Correspondence that passed between us and Lieutenant Bowen, during his Stay here, that it is only necessary to beg your Perusal of the enclosed Copy of it, as containing every information that we have it in our Power to afford you, upon the different Subjects.

70. In our Proceedings of the annexed Dates you will see recorded the Letters addressed to us by Mr. Bowen, and the Resolutions we passed upon them.

Cons. 8 Feby.  
15 Feby.  
17 Feby.  
22 Feby.  
24 Feby.  
29 Feby.  
21 March  
30 March

71. We shall transmit as Numbers in the Packet a Copy in Duplicate of the Agreement entered into by Lieutenant Bowen with Messrs. Lambert, Ross and Co. for the Supply of the Settlement of New South Wales, and Copies of the several Accounts that were left with us by this Officer on his Departure from Bengal, that one of the Copies may be forwarded, as you probably will think necessary, to his Majesty's Secretary of State.

### Police

72. As we had not received from England any Information Relative to the Draft of an Act of Parliament transmitted home in the year 1788. for the better Government and Management of the Police of Calcutta, and other

Cons. 5th Novr.  
1788

"Indent of an Assortment of Madras Piece Goods proper for the Consumption of each Separate Settlement on Sumatra."

And "the outlines of a Plan to be formed for carrying on a Trade in Piece Goods from the Coromandel Coast to Sumatra on Account of the Hon'ble. Company".

62. Mr. Manington stated to us that you had been pleased to appoint him to be your Agent for the Provision of a proper Investment of Piece Goods for the Settlement of Sumatra, and that, understanding that your Hon'ble. Court had signified your Approbation of the Plan we had transmitted to England, he requested that we would recommend it to the Madras Government to carry the same into Effect, in such Terms as we might think the Object required. He also begged to be informed on what Footing he was to be, in respect to Salary and Commission.

63. An Extract from our Proceedings upon Mr. Manington's Letter will be sent with it you will observe that, under the several Circumstances that are stated, we have thought it proper to refer the Papers to Lord Cornwallis, and to request his Lordship to give such Instructions to the Government of Madras, on the subjects of the Application, as he may think most proper.

#### Andamans

64. No Advices have been received from the Andamans subsequent to the date of our last Dispatches. We sent back the *Viper* Sloop to that Settlement, as her Services could not be dispensed with and a Detachment of Sepoys. Cons. 4 Jany. embarked on Board the Vessel at Bombay in the year 1787 having been returned to the West of India, we appointed a small Establishment for her in lieu thereof, a Supply of 8,000 Rupees for Current expenses was also remitted to Captain Blair on the *Viper*.

65. An Application made to us, by Captain Blair, for an increase of Allowances has been referred to Lord Cornwallis and, on the receipt of his Lordship's Answer, we shall determine on the propriety of granting the additions requested.

#### Prince of Wales Island

66. Our Proceedings contain nothing either new or interesting respecting your Establishment at Prince of Wales Island. Mr. Popham, since our last Advices Per Kent, has transmitted his Chart of the newly explored South Channel, and we have the honor to forward it a Number in the Packet with printed Explanations:

76. Our Proceedings of the date annexed contain a Letter from Mr. Meyer, Superintendant of the Police, representing that the form in which the Tannahs in this Town have usually  
*Cons. 15th Feby.* been built is extremely inconvenient and unsafe, and that their materials are liable to rapid decay. He recommends that these Tannahs should be rebuilt in a Strong and Substantial manner, and in a form better adopted to the purposes for which they were intended, and he laid before us a Plan for them, and an Estimate of the Expence that would be incurred in executing it.

77. The former did not appear Objectionable, and the latter we thought Sufficiently moderate; and, as the Building appeared to be necessary, we authorized him to have them erected.

78. The Expence of 31 New Tannahs, corresponding with the same Number of Divisions, of which the Town is composed, will Amount to Sicca Rupees 5,000.

79. The Old Court House being in such a State that it was found upon Survey, unsafe for any Person to reside in it, we were obliged to desire the Superintendant to enquire for another Place where the Business of his Office might be conducted. He has met with one in a central Situation, at a Moderate Rent, 250 Rupees a Month and we have directed him to hire it.

#### Company's Servants

80. We request the Attention of your Hon'ble Court to the Copy of a Correspondence that passed between the Resident at Lucknow, on the one part, and Messrs. Johnston and Taylor,  
*Cons. 25 Jany.* his Assistants, and Mr. Blane, the Surgeon at that Station, on the other, together with a Minute on the Subject from Mr. Stuart, as recorded on the Proceedings of the Date annexed.

81. The obvious necessity which there is, on all accounts, for Supporting the Authority of your Resident at Lucknow will we doubt not, appear to you to justify the Orders we have thought it right to issue on this Occasion by the Advice of Lord Cornwallis to Strengthen the hands of the Resident in all Similar cases of Disrespect or Insult that may occur in future.

82. The Grounds of the distinction we have made in the measure of Punishment, inflicted, in the present instance, between Messrs. Johnstone and Taylor, the Assistants, and Mr. Blane the Surgeon, at Lucknow, are pointed out in Mr. Stuart's Minute.



Purposes stated in the Regulations then proposed, and as we had no reason to imagine that the other pressing Occupations of your Hon'ble. Court would conveniently admit of your bestowing that early Attention, upon this Subject, which you would otherwise shew to it, we were induced by local Circumstances, which render a Consideration of the present System of the Police, with a View to its Improvement, highly advisable to provide for the same. Pending the Regulations that may be expected to be passed at some future Period in England, in consequence of the Suggestions delivered by this Government, with the Concurrence of the Judges of the Supreme Court, in the Draft of the Bill abovementioned; and we thought that this necessary Object would be best legally effected by proposing a Rule, Ordinance, and Regulation to be passed here, in the Forms directed by the Act of the 13th Geo. 3d. c. 63. Sect:36.

73. We agreed therefore that a Copy of the Draft of the Bill sent to England in the year 1788, and a Copy of the Rule, Ordinance,

Cons. 29th June 1788 and Regulation last in Force for the good Government of Calcutta, should be transmitted to your Advocate General, with Instructions to extract from them such Regulations as could be established here, with the Consent of His Majesty's Judges, amending the same, or adding thereto, according to such Suggestions as the Judges themselves might recommend, and according to any Lights that Mr. Meyer, the Superintendant of the Police might be able to furnish. The Advocate General is then to prepare the Draft of a Rule, Ordinance, and Regulation, to be laid before us for our Approval, previous to its being sent to the Supreme Court for the formal Concurrence of the Judges, as directed by Act of Parliament.

74. We were let to desire that a Copy of the Rule and Ordinance, last in force, might be sent to Mr. Burroughs, that, as it was disallowed by a Warrant of the King in Council, he might be enabled to judge what Clauses or Provisions in it were those Objected to, and take care that they should not be inserted in the new Regulations.

75. Upon further consideration of the Proposition from the Superintendent of the Police, which is mentioned in the 49th Paragraph

Cons. 28 Decr. of our Letter, dated the 25th of January, and sent by the Kent recommending that the Sale of Spiritous and fermented Liquors and intoxicating Drugs, by Retail, in the Town of Calcutta, except in licensed Inns and Taverns, should be prohibited, we agreed to make Provision for the same in the Rule and Ordinance.

90. On our Proceedings, of the annexed Dates, you will observe a contested Claim to the Premises, in Calcutta, tenanted for the use of the Governor General between Cossinaut Baboo and the Nowaub Dilawur Jung, eldest Son and Heir to the late Nowaub Mahomed Reza Cawn. The former claimed upon a Judgement which he had obtained against the Nawaub's Estate; but as that Judgment was afterwards set aside by the Supreme Court, where a Suit is now pending upon the Case, We directed that the Rent of the Government House should be paid, as before, to Delawur Jung, till the Event of the Suit should be known.

91. Our Consultation of the 3rd of February, contains a Letter from the Court of Requests, representing that, as several of the Commissioners had been appointed to Situations out of Calcutta, and it was probable that they might lose the Services of others, they wished an Application to be made to your Hon'ble. Court to obtain an Amendment of the Clause in the Charter instituting their Court, and by which the Appointment of Commissioners is restricted to the first Thursday of December in every year. They also requested our Sanction to their filling up such Vacancies as might occur, and as they occurred, until the Result of the Application to England should be known here, as above 4,000 Causes were in Arrear in the Court of Requests.

92. We beg leave to refer their Application, which we think has Grounds to support it, to your Notice observing only that a Reform in the Institution of the Court was provided for in the Draft of the Act sent to England in 1788. As they could not derive from the Sanction they desired of this Government any Right to fill up such Vacancies, as might happen among them, in any other manner, and at any other Time, than those specified and directed in the Charter of George the 2nd. and as there is not any Power, that of an Act of Parliament excepted, which can give an undoubted Authority to alter the Time or manner of electing the Members of the Court, our Sanction was of necessity refused; but we Signified to them that we should be ready to consider any further Proposal they might have to make for the purpose of expediting a Decision upon the Numerous Causes in Arrear.

93. They recommended, in Consequence, that recourse might be had to the expedient, which was successfully tried in 1788, with our approbation, and that they might be authorized to appoint three Sworn Arbitrators, under the Regulations then adopted, to assist them in examining, and deciding upon,

83. Mr. Hugh Baillie having requested permission to resign your Service his Resignation was accepted, and he proceeded to Europe on your Ship the Lord Camden. It may be Mr. Baillie's wish to come back to Bengal, and we beg leave to recommend that leave may be granted him to Return, without Prejudice to his Rank, on his making Application for it.

84. A List of the Appointments that have taken place in this Department since the Date of our Advicts by the Queen will be transmitted a Number in the Packet.

Supreme Court of Judicature, Law Officers, Court of Requests  
& c. & c.

85. We have to advise your Hon'ble. Court that, on the Recommendation of Earl Cornwallis, upon his Lordship's being informed of the Decease of Mr. Davies, Mr. Burroughs, late  
Cons. 21 March your Standing Council, has succeeded to the Office of Advocate General. The permanence of the appointment has been made subject to your Approbation, as directed in your Orders of the 4th of August 1791, and we hope will receive it. His Lordship, to whom the Nomination was left, by your Instructions of the 28th of April 1790, was induced to select Mr. Burroughs for this Situation, as his great Abilities and Reputation at the Bar, rendered him, in his Lordship's Opinion, the properest Person to fill it.

86. Our own Sentiments of Mr. Burroughs being expressed in the 3rd Paragraph of our Letter by the Kent, it is hardly necessary to say that they concur wholly with those of Lord Cornwallis.

87. We considered him as in Possession of the Office from the 20th of January the Day of Mr. Davies's Death, not only because we should conform, by doing so, to the Practice of the Service in many Instances, but because a Considerable Share of heavy Duty has fallen upon him from that Period.

88. An Order was passed at the same Time, that Mr. Burroughs, now entitled to a fixt Salary, should return all Fees that had been paid to him by the Company in the Interval between the Date of Mr. Davies's Decease, and his own Appointment on the 2nd of March. But, independent of the occasions upon which Fees had been given to him, many had occurred, and those of considerable Importance, upon which he had been consulted by us, both verbally and in writing, without receiving, tho' he was entitled to receive any Fee whatever.

89. We are also to advise you that, on the Recommendation of Lord Cornwallis, Mr. John Shaw has been appointed to succeed Mr. Burroughs as the Company's Standing Council.

99. The proposed Augmentation of the Proportion of Payments made in Cash, as therein Stated, and the Consequent diminution of those made in Promissory Notes, was readily admitted by us as just and reasonable.

100. Two Plans having been suggested by Mr. Harington, in his Letter of the 19th January, for the Distribution of the Fund to be Appropriated to the discharge of the Nizamut Debts, both Plans however providing for the liquidation of the whole in the same period of 11 years, We thought it was an act of Justice due to the Assiduity and attention displayed by that Gentleman, in the discharge of this part of his Duty, to leave the option between the two Plans entirely to himself.

### Miscellanea

101. The Building, known by the Name of the Old Court House, having been long in a State of Progressive decay, We instructed the Chief Engineer to cause a particular Survey to be made of it by an Officer of his Corps, accompanied by the Civil Architect, to enable us to form some Judgement from their report of the probable expence that would be incurred by putting the building into a Durable State of Repair, should such a Measure, which we much Doubted, appear advisable.

102. The Letter of the Chief Engineer, in answer to our reference, and enclosing the Report of the Surveyors, is recorded on our Proceedings noted in the Margin and by these you will perceive that the Building is not only in so ruinous a State as to preclude the possibility of any Substantial Repair being given to it, but to make it even unsafe for any persons to reside or continue in it.

103. Some explanations being required as to the Circumstances, under which the Company became Occupants of this Building, we directed our Secretary to make enquiry upon that Point, and to report to us the Result. He has done so, and, if his Report should render any Resolution upon it necessary, we shall advise you of it in a subsequent Dispatch.

104. A Letter from Mr. Fleming is recorded on the proceedings of the Date annexed, Stating that, having lately intended to return to Europe, on Account of his private Affairs, he was informed by the Accountant General, in answer to a Customary Application, that there stood on the Books of that Office a Demand against him of thirty eight Thousand Current Rupees, as Security for Mr. William Bruere, on Account of a China Remittance in 1786.

such matters of Account & c. as might be referred to their Investigation, with the Previous Consent of the Parties suing and sued. They stated the Expence to be incurred in exercising this Authority as Amounting only to ARs. 126 Per Mensem, and they expected that it would not continue longer than three Months. We agreed to the Proposal.

### Natives

94. We addressed you, at considerable length, in our Advices by the Swallow Packet on the Subject of the Arrangement which we had found it necessary to adopt for the liquidation of the Debts of his Highness the Nabob Mobareck ul Dowlah.

95. In Continuation of the same subject we beg leave to call your Attention to two Letters, received some time ago from the Paymaster of the Nizamut Stipends, containing the  
 Cons. 15 Feby. 2 March Satisfactory information of his having prevailed on a Majority of his Highness's Creditors to accept of a Compromise for their Demands, and Stating a Plan by which the Payment of the Debts of the Nizamut, might be liquidated in the Course of 11 years.

96. It is, however, to be observed, that the Demands upon the Nizamut, for Advances or Loans to the Circar, from the most considerable Portion of the Arrears, and are held by Persons whose Circumstances render them less sensible of the inconvenience of prolonged Payment, or who consider it derogatory from their Situations *in life to accept of any compromise by reduction of the Debts due to them.* Creditors of this Description cannot reasonably expect the same indulgence as those who are willing to relinquish a part of their Claims, to which last a preference will accordingly be given in the earlier Adjustment of their Demands.

97. Mr. Harington having been directed by us, on the 22nd of June, to investigate the reality of the Decrease Alledged to have been effected in his Highness's Debts, during the years 1788, 1789 and 1790. We had the Satisfaction to find that the result exhibited an amount actually liquidated, during that Period, of Rs. 9,10,522. 10. 15. 2 leaving a Balance undischarged of Rs. 11,77,831. 14. 12. 1 which Amount is the object of the Arrangement proposed by Mr. Harington and acquiesced in by us.

98. We beg leave to refer your Hon'ble. Court, for further Details on this Subject, to a perusal of Mr. Harington's Letters, Copies of which Attend you for that Purpose numbers in the Packet.

99. The proposed Augmentation of the Proportion of Payments made in Cash, as therein Stated, and the Consequent diminution of those made in Promissory Notes, was readily admitted by us as just and reasonable.

100. Two Plans having been suggested by Mr. Harington, in his Letter of the 19th January, for the Distribution of the Fund to be Appropriated to the discharge of the Nizamut Debts, both Plans however providing for the liquidation of the whole in the same period of 11 years, We thought it was an act of Justice due to the Assiduity and attention displayed by that Gentleman, in the discharge of this part of his Duty, to leave the option between the two Plans entirely to himself.

#### Miscellanea

101. The Building, known by the Name of the Old Court House, having been long in a State of Progressive decay, We instructed the Chief Engineer to cause a particular Survey to be made of it by an Officer of his Corps, accompanied by the Civil Architect, to enable us to form some Judgement from their report of the probable expence that would be incurred by putting the building into a Durable State of Repair, should such a Measure, which we much Doubted, appear advisable.

102. The Letter of the Chief Engineer, in answer to our reference, and enclosing the Report of the Surveyors, is recorded on our Proceedings noted in the Margin and by these you will  
 Cons. 24 Feby. perceive that the Building is not only in so ruinous a State as to preclude the possibility of any Substantial Repair being given to it, but to make it even unsafe for any persons to reside or continue in it.

103. Some explanations being required as to the Circumstances, under which the Company became Occupants of this Building, we directed our Secretary to make enquiry upon that Point, and to report to us the Result. He has done so, and, if his Report should render any Resolution upon it necessary, we shall advise you of it in a subsequent Dispatch.

104. A Letter from Mr. Fleming is recorded on the proceedings of the Date annexed, Stating that, having lately intended to return to Europe, on Account of his private Affairs, he was informed by the Accountant General, in answer to a Customary Application, that there stood on the Books of that Office a Demand against him of thirty eight Thousand Current Rupees, as Security for Mr. William Bruere, on Account of a China Remittance in 1786.

105. You will observe on perusing Mr. Fleming's Letter, that no Deeds or Articles of Agreement, to which his Penalty Bond had special Reference, had been ever executed by him, and that, in the opinion of the late Advocate General, no Relief can be had against a Surety so Circumstanced, either in Law or Equity. On this Ground, which is common to all Mr. Bruere's Sureties for the Remittance in Question, and on others which are peculiar to Mr. Fleming, and one of the other Sureties only, that Gentleman requested that his Bond might be cancelled.

106. Our Determination upon this request is recorded on the Proceedings of the 24th February. We agreed that the Bond should not be given up, lest any Resolution should be  
 Cons. 24 Feby taken here or in England to try the validity of it in a Court of Law; But we were induced not to require any Security from Mr. Fleming on his return to Europe, whenever that might happen, as the Opinion delivered by the late Advocate General, in the case of Mr. Adair, one of the Sureties, discouraged any expectation of Success in the recovery of the Money, and as, after the failure of some part of another Remittance, given about the same Time to Mr. Bruere, it was not thought necessary to demand Security from either of the Persons who were the Sureties and were going to England.

107. We have the Satisfaction to inform your Hon'ble. Court that we have now a prospect of procuring the genuine Coffee Plant  
 Cons. 10th Feby. from Mocha at a less expence than that which  
 22 Feby. we stated in our last Advices by the Kent, and without Dispatching a Vessel expressly for this purpose, Colonel Kyd having acquainted us that Captain Marshall, who commands a Ship annually sent by the Nabob of Arcot with Pilgrims to Mecca, was willing to execute the Commission, on Condition of his necessary expences being defrayed. These were estimated by Colonel Kyd at about 500 or 600 Rupees.

108. That part of the Annual supply of Stationary, imported on the Phoenix, which we informed you in our late Addresses, had  
 Cons. 3 Feby. been condemned on Survey, was returned by your Ship the Northumberland in Seventy Six Chests.

109. We did so in compliance with your Orders in the 25th Paragraph of your General Letter, dated the 11th of March 1791 but not without some apprehension that the Quantity of Tonnage which so many bulky Packages would occupy, would take the place of a part of the Investment which would have fitted it much better; and for this reason we took upon us afterwards, when a Report was

made that the Quantity of damaged Stationery imported by the Dutton, amounted to 40 Chests, or near 20 Tons, to deviate from the Strict Letter of your Instructions, and to keep the Stationery in the Country, to be sent home, or disposed of here as you may be pleased to direct.

110. In Obedience to your Commands of the 30th of March 1791. the Chief Engineer has transmitted to us for Dispatch by the Dutton a Box containing a set of Plans, a List of which together with a Letter addressed to us on the Subject by that Officer, will be sent in the Packet.

111. We were in hopes that, before this Time, we should have been enabled to have sent to you, according to the Desire expressed in your Letter of the 30th March 1791, the Journal of Mr. Smith. who accompanied Lieutenant Colonel Upton to Poonah in the year 1775. But we are concerned to say that after a careful search in every Office, where we conceived it might have been deposited, it has not been found.

112. We have lately been informed by the Chief Engineer that Lieutenant Wilford of the Corps of Engineers, remembers to have seen it, or a Copy of it, in the Possession of Lieutenant Colonel Call, six or seven years ago, and, as it may be found among his Papers, We think it probable that you may Order an Application for it to be made to his Executors in England.

113. A Box of drawings executed by Messrs. Daniels was, their particular request, forwarded to England, on your Ship the Lord Camden, consigned to Messrs. Paxton & Co.

114. The Ingenuity, and good Character of these Artists claim our particular Notice; but as, from Prudential Motives, we have been obliged to withhold from them those Encouragements, which alone could be substantially useful to them in affording them some sort of Compensation for Disappointments they have met with in obtaining a suitable Return for the ingenuous Designs and Paintings executed by them, in their Travels to the remotest Parts of this Side of India, we have contented ourselves with pointing out their merits to your Hon'ble. Court and recommending them your favourable Attention.

115. Mr. Prager, who, by a Clause in his Indentures, is bound to lay before us Annually an Affidavit of an Account of his Trade in Diamonds Diamond Boart, or other precious Stones, having transmitted to us an Account thereof, dated the 1st Ultimo, and Sworn to before one of the Judges, we shall forward it a Number in the Packet.



116 The Reverend Mr Abraham Thomas Clarke addressed a Letter to us on the 14th of February requesting our Permission to Administer to the Comfort of the Prisoners in the Gaol by performing Divine Service there every Sunday Morning He assured us that he should never receive any Gratuity whatever for this duty but feel himself amply repaid by our acquiescence in his proposal

117 We agreed that the humane offer of Mr Clarke should be acknowledged and we thought so well of it as to acquaint the Sheriff that we wished him to accept it

118 Mr Clarke having lately presented to us Mr Ostervalds Abridgement of the Bible translated into the Persian Language at the Suggestion of Mr Clarke by Mr Francis Gladwin and requested leave to send a few Copies of it to the Right Reverend the Lords Bishops and your Honble Court by the Ship Dutton we have left him at Liberty to do so if he thinks proper

119 Mr Gladwin has shewn to us the Beginning of a Work upon which he is employed—The Translation of the Tootenamah deeming it well calculated for the Improvement of young Students in the Persian Language He solicited some Encouragement to enable him to go on with it and we agreed to subscribe for the usual Number of Copies

120 Observing in the Calcutta Gazette of the 1st Ultimo an Advertisement inserted in it of an Intended Sale by Public Auction of a Quantity of Arms Vizt 500 London made Soldiers Muskets and Bayonets we directed our Secretary to write to the Auctioneer to ment on the Board's Surprise on seeing this Publication enquire to whom the Arms belonged and prohibit the Sale and this has been done accordingly

121 The State of our Treasury this day is as follows

Ready Money

Gold Mohurs	66 163 2-0	10 58 610	12,28 987 9 7
Siccas		4 60 243 6-4	55 33 882 5 5
Coppe Coin	2 91 808	9 119	10 578 0 9
			<hr/>
			17 72 447 15 8
			<hr/>
Bills Receivable		5 90 693 0-3	6 85,203 14-4
			<hr/>
Current Rupees			24 57 651 14-0

Unsorted Treasure	1770-0-0.
Balance Account Deposits	1,18,453-0-11
Balance Accountant General Mayors Court	1,04,930-3-5
Balance Old Bond Debts on which the Interest has ceased by Public Advertt.	36,102-0-2
Balance New Bond Debts	1,11,25,553-8-2
Balance Madras Military Arrears	25,44,818-13-0
Balance Bombay Ditto	17,15,589-5-11
Balance Loans taken up at 12 per Cent	78,95,592-9-6
	<hr/> 2,35,41,039-9-1

We have to honor to be

Fort William  
the 27th April, 1792.  
[Per Dutton]

Hon'ble Sirs,  
Your most faithful  
Humble Servants,

Cha. Stuart, Peter Speke, Wm. Cowper

21

LETTER DATED 3 SEPTEMBER 1792

*Indians ineligible for Company's service—Tyler and rice contract—Mair's appeal against rejection of his rice contract—Kyd's reports on Andaman and Nicobar Islands—Hiram Cox and sugar works—replacement of Campbell by Wintle as assistant in-charge of stationery—supplies to New South Wales—plan of insurance-company at Mirzapur—free merchants and free mariners—China remittances and action against Canning and Cotton—new method of remittance suggested—famine in Northern Sarkars—salt trade—Bishop's case—Mair's case—despatch of black and white pepper from Fort Marlbro'—promissory notes and bonds—new method of keeping accounts—appointment of committee to investigate mint affairs—cases of extorting money under false pretences and swearing to false debts—cultivation of cassida root—receipt of cinnamon plants by Kyd—shawl goats to be sent to Europe—representation to Raja of Berar regarding interruption in dak service—European vagrants.*

TO the Hon'ble, the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble. the United Company of Merchants of England Trading to the East Indies.

Honble Sirs,

1. Our last Dispatches from this Department were dated the 27th of April, and transmitted, via Madras, by the Dutton.

2. We have now the honour to address you by the Ganges and to forward a Duplicate of those Advices, with a Continuation of our Proceedings for the Months of April, May, June, and July, an Index thereof, and the Other Papers mentioned in the List of the Packet.

3. We have been honored with your Letters, in this Department, bearing date the 14th of December 1791, and the 8th of February 1792, the former having been received at Madras by your Ship the Nottingham, and the latter here by the General Goddard.

Answer to the General Letter, dated 14th of December 1791.

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| 1. Date of last Advice   | } | 4. Para. 1st and 2nd do not require any Answer.   |
| 2. Acknowledge receipt of our Dispatches in the Public, Revenue, Political, and Foreign, Departments, Per Warren Hastings.   |   |   |
| 3. Transmit the Resolutions passed by the Directors on the 19th of April and 9th of November 1791, by which Sons of Native Indians are not eligible to any Station in the Companys Civil, Military, or Marine Service or to be appointed Sworn Officers of the Eutope Ships. |   | 5. Para 3. These Resolutions were made public, in the usual manner by advertizement in the Calcutta Gazette. They will be found in the Gazette of the 31st May. |
| 4. Transmit regulations of the 8th of June 1791, respecting qualifications for Mates of Ships not to operate to the prejudils of those Sworn in before that period, who may wish to Avail themselves of the Regulations passed on the 15th of July 1789.                     |   | 6. Para 4th. Does not require any Answer, except that the Regulations, in question as far as they regard this Government, will be strictly attended to.         |
| 5. Mr. Oswald Charters Permitted to return, and reside in Bengal for three years.  |   | 7. Para. 5th. Requires no Answer.   |

6. Names of Persons allowed to proceed to India under Free Mariners Indentures.
8. Our Secretary duly received, and laid before us, Mr Secretary Morton's letter of the 28th of January by the General Goddard, acknowledging the Arrival of our Dispatches by the Swallow Packet.

Answer to the General Letter dated the 8th of Feby. 1792.

1. Date of last Letter.
9. Para. 1 to 9. inclusive. No answer necessary.
2. Noticing a Paragraph in our address of the 31st of January 1791, not requiring any Answer.
3. The late Advocate Generals opinion relative to the temporary appointment of a third Member of Council at Madras and Bombay under Consideration.
- Para 4th, 5th, and 6th Expressing Approbation of the Endeavours of this Government to Assist *that of Madras in raising the Necessary Supplies for Carrying on the War—* of our determination to call on the Securities of Mr Tyler upon his Engagement to pay Money into the Madras Treasury, and of the Supply of 6000 Bags of Rice to Vizagapatam.
- Para. 7. Postpone giving an opinion on Mr. Mairs Appeal against the rejection of his Contract Rice by the Madras Government, until you are advised of our Decision thereon.

Para 8. Have no directions to give relative to Mr. Beanlands Contract.

Para. 9. Have repeatedly approved our Conduct in Supplying Fort St. George with Funds for the prosecution of the War.

Para. 10. Approving of the engagements entered into for a further Supply of Cash to Bombay, in addition to the 3 Lacks provided for Monthly from Benares, and directing, on Account of the Loss to which the Company are Subject for the latter, that some more eligible mode of Supply be devised for the next Season.

Para. 11. Approve of the Measures taken for Supplying Bombay with Rice.

Para. 12. Approve of the Dispatch of 250 Chests of Opium to Prince of Wales Island, and desire to be informed of the Rates at which it was disposed of.

Para. 13. Approve of the Measures taken for the Safety of Prince of Wales Island, by sending a Reinforcement of Troops and Military Stores to that Settlement, Anxiously wish to receive the Report of Commodore

10. You may rely upon our availing ourselves of every Circumstance which we may Suppose likely to afford the means of remitting the Requisite Supplies to the Bombay Presidency upon less disadvantageous Terms than through the Medium of the Benares Treasury. You will, however, find, from what will hereafter be stated to you regarding our Proceedings on this Subject that we have been Obligated for the present to resort to that mode of Remittance.

11. Para. 11. Requires no answer.

12. Para 12. We transmit, a Number in the Packet, a Copy of the Account Sales of the 250 Chests of Opium mentioned in this Paragraph.

13. Para. 13. Commodore Cornwallis has given his decided Opinion to the Governor General which will be communicated to you by his Lordship, that the Harbour at the North East end of the great Andaman Island, is greatly preferable to any Other Harbour in the Bay of Bengal as a Port for

a Matter of necessity, will not believe that there can exist a Combination among the Merchants Rely on our exertions to effect the future remittances on equitable terms.

Para. 21. Shall not now enter into any discussion of the Reports and Statements received from Bombay, as further Communications from hence are promised on the Subject.

23. Para. 21. requires on Answer at Present

Para. 22. Approve our Proceedings relative to Mr. W. Wroughton, late Collector of Mymensing. and will not fail by every means in your Power, to prove the Sense which you entertain of his Conduct.

24. Para. 22. Requires no Answer

Para. 23 to 33 inclusive. Inattention Shewn to your Orders by our not Sending home Musters of the Stationery, imported by the Ships of 1789/90 that was Damaged, or of inferior quality; Observe, by our Proceedings of the 24th December 1790 that an Order did pass for transmitting to England Musters of part of the Paper: It does not appear to whom this Charge was given, but, considering him very reprehensible for his neglect, you direct that your displeasure on

Para. 23 to 33 inclusive. 25 We shall enter very fully upon the Subject of these Paragraphs in our next Dispatches, but, in the meantime we think it Proper to inform you that we have removed Mr. Camybell from his Office of Assistant in Charge of the Stationery, according to your directions, and appointed to it Mr. James Wintle, One of the Company's Civil Servants, granting to him the Allowance which you have been pleased to prescribe.

- Para. 14. Noticing a Paragraph not requiring any Orders. 16. Para. 14. Needs no reply.
- Para. 15. Shall Mention in Advices to Fort Malbro' the Subject of the Agreement made, for five years, by the Deputy Governor and Council with Mr. Hiram Cox for Carrying in the Sugar Works at Banterim, and concur in the censure passed on them by us for having concluded, without our previous Sanction, an Engagement for so long a Period. 17. Para. 15. Requires no Answer.
- Para. 16. The case of the Forgery Committed by Mr. Freeth at Bencoolen has been referred to the Company's Law Officers. 18. Para. 16. Requires no Answer.
- Para. 17. Referring to a Paragraph that does not need any reply. 19. Para. 17. Requires no Answer.
- Para. 18. Approve the Consignment of Opium to Bencoolen per Foulis. 20. Para. 18. Requires no Answer.
- Para. 19. Noticing a Paragraph not requiring Orders. 21. Para. 19. Needs no reply.
- Para. 20. On the Subject of the China Remittance of 1790.91 : Struck with the difference between the terms Offered by Mr. Fenwick and the other Proposers. All Circumstances considered, the rejection of his Offer was 22. Para. 20. This Paragraph will be duly Attended to.

care is to be taken to make out the indent for such quantities as may be deemed fully Sufficient to Answer the demands.

Para. 34. Our Proceedings Respecting the Madrugada, a Portugueze Ship, under the Consideration of the Company's Law Officers. 26 Para 34, 35 Do not require any answer.

Para. 35. Approving the Pension to Mrs. Faria, as long as she Remains a Widow.

Para. 36 and 37. Noticing a Paragraph that does not require any Order upon it, and advising that you have not received a Volume of Mr. Burrow's Geographical Remarks said to have been transmitted. 27. Para. 36 and 37. The Work referred to in the last of these Paragraphs was transmitted to you by the Dutton.

Para. 38. A Letter from Lieutt. Col. Kyd referred to Sir Joseph Banks. 28. Para. 38, 39, 40, 41, 42. No Answer required.

Para. 39. Concern expressed that the Nabob Mobarck-ul-Dowlah should be averse to the Plan proposed for the liquidation of his Debts, and trust that our Representations will have been productive of his Chearful Acquiescence in it.

Para. 40. Noticing a Paragraph not needing any Order.



the Occasion be duly signified to him Prohibit all sales of Condemned Stationery and direct that what may [be] so damaged as to be wholly unserviceable be burnt or destroyed Reason that has more particularly urged the expediency of this Prohibition Our Proceedings upon your Orders, of the 28th of April 1790 for Annulling the Stationary Contract and approved Reasons Surprized and displeased at its having been recommended to Continue Mr Campbell, the Contractor, in Charge of the Stationery, annexing to it the Allowance of Sa Rs 340 Per Mensem Are at a loss to Conceive why a Junior Servant under your Accountant General, or Other Principal Officer Cannot give the necessary Attention to this Business Direct that Mr Campbell be forthwith removed from his Office, and that a Company's Servant be Appointed to it, with an Allowance of 200 Sicca Rupees Per Mensem Your Order for the Annual Transmission of an Indent of Stationery, with an Account of the Issues and Remains of this Article are to be Strictly and Punctually attended to in future and great

*After the Conclusion of the War, to take the General State of Affairs upon the Malabar Coast into your Serious Consideration.*

Para. 50. Desire to be informed of such Measures as may be adopted here relative to Supplies to Botany Bay.

Para. 51. Relative to the Plan of an Insurance Company Established at Mirzapore Incumbent on the Resident at Benares to see the Restriction in the 21st Paragraph properly attended to.

Para. 52. The Representation respecting defects in the Police under the Consideration of the Company's Law Officers.

32. Para. 50. Your Honble. Court were ducly informed by the Dutton of the Particulars of the Supply which had been recently Sent to the Settlement at New South Wales and we shall take Care in future to Comply with the instructions Contained in this Paragraph.

33. Para. 51. A copy of this Paragraph has been transmitted to the Resident at Benares.

34. Para. 52. Supposing it possible that the Consideration of the Draft of the Bill Submitted to you, to be laid before His Majesty's Minister for better Ordering and Governing the Police of the Town of Calcutta and for Other purposes described in that Paper, may not have been taken up previous to your receipt of this letter, we think it proper to lay before you and to transmit a Number in the Packet, a New Draft of the Bill containing some Alterations (which will be found described in Red Ink) recommended by the Chief Justice in the former Copy of it. We make it our request that the Bill as amended may be Submitted to one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State and we cannot

Para. 41. Approve of our having taken Security in the Sum of One Lack of Rupees from Mr. Foley, on his Aypointment to the Office of Civil Pay Master.

Para. 42. Noticing a Paragraph that does not require any Order.

Para. 43. Approve the Notice taken of the Kin. of Tringano's liberality in ransoming five Englishmen Supposed to have been lost in the Wreck of the Vansittart. and of our having ordered a present to be prepared for him. Direct that ois good Offices be Acknowledged in the Name of the British Nation.

Para. 44, 45, 46. Noticing Paragraphs that do not require any Orders.

Para. 47. Have already approved of the Supply of Rice to Vizagapatam Notice the Want of Foresight in the Chief and Council of that Settlement, and the Distress Occasioned thereby.

Para. 48. Noticin- a Paragraph Already replied to.

Para. 49. Approve the Answer sent to Bombay Relative to the Revedues of Salsette, and intend

29. Para. 43. We shall take Care when a proper Oppurtunity Offers to make the Communication directed in this Paragraph, to the King of Tringano.

30. Para. 44, 45, 46, No Answer necessary.

31. Para. 47, 48, 49. Do not require any Answer.

exceed five or six or, at the utmost Ten) your Licence to Individuals to proceed to this Country as Free Merchants or Free Mariners, but that particular Care should be taken, when you grant it, that the Persons, on whom you bestow this Mark of Favor, are, from their Characters, entirely deserving of it.

38. We beg leave to take this Occasion to observe, that, altho' many years ago, a distinction may have been, and we believe was, maintained between those who Visited India as Free Merchants and those who come to it as Free Mariners a Distinction revived in late dispatches from your Honble. Court, who have not often given Licences to Free Mariners—the Habits obtained in a long Period of Time and Circumstances connected with the Policy, upon which Men vary in their Judgements, of bounding the Merchantile Speculations of Individuals, or allowing them full Scope while the latter, which is certainly the most liberal, has seemed also to prevail in the Opinion of Men who wish well to the People of this Country have gradually brought upon a level the Persons who came out with your Leave as Free Merchants to exercise their Discretion in trading from one Port of India to another or, residing at any fixed Place, to engage in Commerce, and the Free Mariners whose Licences according to the old and Original Intention was limited to the Maritime Trade, in the Pursuits of which

omit expressing our earnest hope that if the Subject has not already been brought before Parliament there may be as little delay as possible in Submitting it for decision

Para 53 and 54 Noticing Paragraphs already replied to or not requiring any Answer 35 Para 53 and 54 No Answer Necessary

Para 55 Lieutenant Colonel Kyd's Letter will be communicated to Sir Joseph Banks The Supra Cargoes at Canton have been directed to pay attention to the requisitions of this Government, or those of Colonel Kyd, on Botanical Subjects 36 Para 55, 56, 57 No Answer Necessary

Para 56 Noticing a Paragraph that does not require any Order

Para 57 Names of Writers appointed in further part of those of last Season

Para 58 One hundred and four Persons permitted to proceed to India this Season as Free Mariners Desire our Sentiments as to the Expediency of Allowing persons of this description to go out annually, and whether the Commerce of the Country, or the Company's Interests, are promoted thereby 37 This Subject, which we deem of more than ordinary Consequence having been brought before us we should ill discharge the Duty you have assigned to us, if we did not deliver our Opinion upon it without the least Reserve We shall not therefore hesitate in assuring you that we think it extremely advisable under the present Circumstances of the Company's Trade and Situation in India, that you should not only confine to very few Instances every year (we could wish that the Number should not

but, as it is very easily practicable to remove from the Country all those who are in it, without your Permission, and those who have that Permission sometimes assume Rights and Pretensions that are not perfectly justifiable, and cannot under their Covenants be sent away but upon a Notice of no less than twelve Months, we hold a more direct Control over the unlicensed European, who may be forced to quit the Country on a Days Notice, than we are thought to possess over the man who produces his indentures to shew that he Trades on an authority Superior to our own.

42. There are many instances to prove the importance of your being perfectly Satisfied upon Sufficient Evidence in Eng<sup>d</sup>, the Characters of the Persons to whom alone your Licences should be granted. A very recent case was lately before us, of a Mr. Michael McNamara, who went to England, in the year 1789, in Consequence of an Order from Government upon a full assurance of his very improper Conduct in different Parts of Bengal. He probably stated his Situation as deserving of Compassion, and himself as much Oppressed, and the Humanity of the Court, perhaps, was interested to allow of his Return. He came to Bengal with the Indenture of a Free Mariner, and he had not been many Weeks here when he brought forward the very same Complaint of ill usage, that had been rejected

they were themselves to travel from Place to Place, without being entitled by their Covenants (as these were intended to be understood) to take up their abode and settle for Commercial Purposes, in one Part of India in Preference to another.

39. It seems impossible to renew this Distinction in practice, without exercising a very great Degree of Severity which we believe not to be in Contemplation; and we think that, altho it were renewed you could never be quite certain of its being rigidly adhered to.
40. The Situations of Free Merchants and Free Mariners being thus supposed to be not dissimilar, it seems to be of little consequence whether the Licences be granted under one Denomination or the other; but a Restraint upon the Number is extremely necessary; for there is not a Part of India that is not principally inhabited, among the Europeans, by Persons who are not upon the Civil or Military Establishment of your Service; Many have not the means and some not the inclination, to carry on Trade, and they become a Burthen to the Society in which they live.
41. It may certainly be said that it were better to give an express authority to Persons to Trade in India, than that a great Variety of People from England should be here, without any licence whatever; and we should admit the Position, if it Stood by itself;

of your Honourable court. His Private Character is very respectable and we hope that, in Addition to any Weight that may be assigned to our Recommendation, his former Services on the Coast will not be disregarded.

49. Lord Cornwallis has recorded a minute, in which his Lordship Observes after having read over all the Papers and Proceedings of Government respecting Mr. Cuthbert Fenwick, that when he considers the Insolence of the Letters addressed by Mr. Fenwick to the Supreme Council, the Indecency of his Conduct to a most respectable Committee that was appointed to investigate his Charge against Mr. Price, and the unprovoked and Violent attack which he made on Mr. Larkins, of whose Fidelity and meritorious Services to the Company his Lordship takes particular Notice, he has no hesitation in declaring that he thinks Mr. Fenwick a very improper Person to hold any Office under this Government, and therefore intirely approves of the Determination of the Board to Postpone his appointment of the Situation of Naval Storekeeper until your Pleasure should be known.

#### Canton

50. Our Consultations on the 29th of May and 29th of June, contain our latest Advices from your Supra Cargoes at Canton, informing us that the full amount of the Bonds and Bills transmitted to China, on account of the Remittance of 1790-91 had been liquidated, excepting two Bonds of Captain John Canning for Current Rupees 4,00 000.

Cons. 29 May  
29 June  
See their Letter  
Dated 31st of Jan-  
uary on Cons. 29th  
May



in 1789, after an inquiry the Result of which induced us to order him out of the Country

43 We have given Mr Michael McNamara Notice that he must be *prepared to leave Bengal at this Time Twelve Month*, and we Trust that he will not be allowed to return to it

44 The Papers that have a Reference to his Complaints and Conduct are recorded on our Proceedings of the annexed Dates (1 and 24 April 1789 20th August 92)

Para 59 Names of free Mariners 45 Para 59 Needs no reply

Para 60 Captain Bruce Boswell to succeed to the Office of Naval Store keeper after Messrs Price and Fenwick

46 Para 60 Immediately upon the Arrival of Mr Boswell, with the appointment of eventual Successor to the Offices of Marine Pay Master and Naval Storekeeper, Mr Taswell, who held them, subject to your Pleasure concerning Mr Cuthbert Fenwick, desired to resign them, and we have nominated Mr Boswell to the Temporary Charge until your Orders relative to Mr. Fenwick shall be received

47 We shall transmit a Copy of Mr Taswell's Letter, upon this Occasion, a Number in the Packet

48 His Conduct, during the time that he has held the Offices in question has given us intire Satisfaction, and Justly entitled him to the Notice, which we have recorded our Intention to take of it, by recommending him, in very favourable Terms to the Notice

Merchants and Agents of Calcutta, and that it might also be considered as severe should it be found that Captain Canning had really appropriated, according to his assurance, property fully sufficient to liquidate the Company's Claims upon him.

55. To ascertain this Point, in a satisfactory manner, and to procure a regular assignment of the property from Captain Canning to the Company, was deemed by your Advocate

*Cons. 20th July.* General to be the most eligible mode of proceeding and we adopted it, the fact of the appropriation both of the Opium, amounting to 253 Chests, and of a Sum of Money, to the Purposes declared by Captain Canning, appears to be established, beyond all doubt, by the affidavit of Mr. John Redford, the Purser of his Ship, the Nonsuch Mr. Canning without the least hesitation or delay. on his part, executed and delivered over to us an Assignment of the Property, and we have forwarded it to Canton, with an irrevocable Power of Attorney directed to the Gentlemen who Compose your Select Committee of Supra Cargoes, authorizing them to appropriate the effects which are assigned to the Liquidation of the Company's Demands.

56. We hope that there is little Doubt that before these Papers, and the instructions we have sent with them, arrive in China the Payments upon the Remittance in question will have been completed; and as the Responsibility of the Securities continues as it was, the measure of proceeding against them is still open should we hereafter see a necessity for recurring to it.

57. You were advised, by the Swallow Packet, of the Step, we had taken, by the advice of Mr. Davies, your late Advocate General, to bring to Justice Mr. Thomas Cotton for the fraud of which he was declared to have been guilty in obtaining, under false Pretences, a part of the China Remittance of 1790/91.

58. Captain Thomas Stephenson, the Person of whose name an improper use was said to have been made upon this occasion, and on whose affidavit the Proceedings against Mr.

*Cons. 27 June* Cotton had been founded was employed (as you were acquainted in the Dispatches to which we refer) as Super Cargo to dispose of the Opium sent to China, which had been redeemed by us from the Persons to whom Mr. Cotton had Mortgaged it. This necessarily occasioned a Considerable delay in bringing Mr. Cotton to Trial, the Prosecution depending, for its Support on the Facts known to Mr. Stephenson, but in the first Sessions the latter returned to Bengal, Mr. Cotton being very solicitous to bring the matter to issue, the Company's Law Officers were enabled to proceed

51. The *Supra* Cargoes acquainted us that they had protested Captain Canning's Bonds on the day upon which they became due; but, being persuaded that he had property fully sufficient to make good his obligations and in consequence of the Letter he had written to them on the Subject they forbore for the present returning those Bonds for recovery in Bengal, relying on the hope, which he had given them, that they should receive Payment in the Course of the ensuing Month, with Interest at the Rate of one Per Cent per Mensem from the period when the Bonds became due.

52. You will observe, however, by their Subsequent Letter of the 9th of April that the amount had not then been liquidated. The

Cons. 29th June Market appears to have been so unfavorable that Captain Canning had been able to dispose but of a very small part of his Opium, on the Sale of the whole of which he had depended to enable him to satisfy his engagements with the Company; but we are assured that, before he quitted China, on his return to Bengal, he purchased a Vessel for the Purpose of depositing on it such part of the Opium as remained unsold and left directions with his Agents to appropriate the Proceeds of it to the discharge of the Company's Demands.

53. On Captain Canning's arrival here, the serious Embarrassment of his Circumstances, amounting to a failure, rendered it

Cons. 18th July incumbent on us to consider what means, that could be effectual were left to us to secure so large a portion of the Company's Property, which was at Risk to the Extent of three Lacks of Rupees, the fourth Lack, to complete the Sum of the Remittance, having been deposited as a Part of the Security for making it good; and we called upon your Advocate General to propose the Measures that he deemed to be advisable for that purpose.

54. Mr. Burroughs attended the Board on the 18th of July; and we consulted him upon the best mode of proceeding. The first thing

Cons. 18th July that was thought of was to call upon those Gentlemen, who were Mr. Canning's personal Securities for performing the Remittance; but it appeared that, as the Term of the Court was over, no Step could be taken to attach the Property of these Securities, for some Months, until the latter end of October when the Term would be again begun, tho' Process might be issued against their persons should we think it expedient to resort to that measure. It was observed to us, however, that such a Step, taken on the Part of the Company, might be extremely injurious to the Situation and Credit of the Gentlemen concerned, as they were

62. A Copy of the Letter, which we wrote upon this occasion, to Canton will be sent a Number in the Packet. It states very fully the Remittances that we have provided for that Treasury, to be realized at the end of the present year and beginning of the next.

#### Fort St. George and Subordinates

63. The greater part of our Correspondence with this Presidency and its Subordinates relates, as you will observe by the References in the margin, to the Melancholy Subject of the distressed Situation of the Northern Circars, where the Famine has continued to prevail with little Other Alleviation than what it has obtained by Supplies of Grain from hence.

Cons. 8 June  
15 June  
27 June  
14 July  
[Sic] 13 July  
18 July  
6 Augt.  
13 Augt.  
17 Augt.  
20 Augt.

64. The urgent Solicitations, which were made to us both by the Governor in Council at Fort St. George, and immediately from the Northern Circars, to extend relief, as far as might be in our power, to the necessities of the latter, could not possibly add to the Strong desire we naturally felt to alleviate the Sufferings of the Inhabitants of those Districts; and it has been, to us a Subject of the most painful regret that the State of these Countries, in Consequence of the unfavorable termination of the last Rainy Season, would not permit us, at an earlier period, to allow of an unrestrained exportation of Grain according to the wishes expressed by the Government of Madras.

65. You will observe, by referring to a Statement, entered on our Proceedings of the 13th of July, that no less a quantity than 3,27,528 Bags of Rice had been exported to Madras and the Northern Circars, either immediately by this Government or under its Authority, between that Period and the 10th October 1791, which was the date of the Embargo. They were also provided with considerable quantities of Grain brought from the Malabar and Arracan Coasts; but we had still the Mortification to find that the effects of these Supplies were as inadequate to our wishes as to the object proposed by them; and that the Famine, and consequent mortality, in the Northern Circars still prevailed without any apparent diminution.

66. The Season being at length arrived when the State of the growing Crops, throughout these Provinces, could be ascertained upon some sort of Estimate, we had the Satisfaction to observe the Accounts from every Quarter so favorable, in this respect, that we had little to apprehend with regard to the future harvest. We therefore came to a resolution to

Cons. 13 July.

upon the Charge, which was to be prosecuted, according to their Opinion, by Indictment at Common Law for a Fraud. The Indictment was accordingly prepared; but the Grand Jury threw out the Bill

59. Our Consultations of the annexed Dates contain the Correspondence which has passed between us and Mr. Thomas Cotton, or his Securities on the Subject of his China Remittance, including an Account Current, drawn out by your Accountant General, which stated a Balance due to the Company, upon that Remittance to the Amount of CRs. 1,54,636. 11. 7. which has been subsequently a little reduced by the Sale of Bales of Chintz, forming a part of the property assigned over to the Company by the Securities of Mr. Cotton. They were disposed of, at Auction, for SRs. 6,114 4.4.

Conf. 23 March  
30 March  
4 April  
11 April  
4 May  
9 May  
15 June  
20 June  
27 June  
Cons. 27 June

60. A Letter from our Accountant General is recorded on our Proceedings of the 9th of March, in which he recommends that as the present Mode of issuing Promissory Notes for Money to be paid at a future Period into the Canton Treasury, has subjected Government to Considerable Loss by the intermediate Failure of the Promissory Note Holders, the following mode of supplying the Canton Treasury may be adopted in the ensuing Season.

Cons. 9 March

1st. That no Engagements be entered into by this Government for Money to be paid into the Canton Treasury; but that the Supra Cargoes be authorized to take up whatever Sums they may annually require.

2nd. That for the money so taken up they grant Certificates, specifying the rate of Exchange at which the Dollars are to be repaid in Current Rupees in Bengal.

3rd. That the Certificates contain a Proviso to the following effect, Vizt. that in the event of its not being Convenient to the Government to pay the amount in Cash, the Debt be discharged by the issue of Promissory Notes at the discount of the Day.

61. We have transmitted a Copy of these Propositions to your Select Committee of Supra Cargoes, and acquainted them that, altho it is not our Intention to adopt the Plan for the ensuing Season, we authorize them; nevertheless, to take up any Sums that Individuals may be inclined to pay into their Treasury upon the Principle of Mr. Larkin's suggestions

70. We have been advised, by a late Letter from the Government at Madras, that the Stock of Rice in that Settlement, for the Consumption of the Inhabitants, is reduced very low, that they have drawn considerable Supplies.

Cons. 17 Aug. during the last Six Months from their Western and Southern Districts; but that this Resource is nearly exhausted; and, as the Northern Sircars cannot, for some time, Supply even their own wants, they request assistance from Bengal. Their application for Grain extends to a Lack and Fifty thousand Bags of Rice to be sent to them on the Company's Account, if the Embargo on private exportation be continued, and to Fifty thousand Bags if it be taken off; and they desire that, as Large a Proportion of the Supply as possible may be dispatched in September, and the rest as soon after the Monsoon as the Season will permit.

71. A Copy of our Letter to Madras, in answer to this application will be sent a Number in the Packet. You will observe that we advertized for Freight for Twenty thousand Bags of Rice to be delivered at Madras; and that, after Providing the Large Supplies that have been sent, and are now going, to the Northern Sircars, we could not Promise to assist the Presidency with a greater quantity before the Change of the Monsoon. We expect to have it in our Power to determine, by the middle of next Month, whether we shall be justified in taking off the Embargo altogether; and we are happy to acquaint you that present appearances encourage us very much to hope that the measures may be adopted.

permit the exportation of Rice in British Vessels exclusively, to the Northern Circars. At first we restricted the purchase as well as loading of the Cargoes to places below Diamond Harbour a precaution which we thought necessary at the time it was adopted in Order to prevent the effect on the price of Grain in the Calcutta Market if it were generally understood that the Embargo was removed without any limitation.

67 But in a few days we did away the Restriction altogether respecting the place of purchase and Shipping the Rice destined for the Northern Circars still retaining however the former Condition as to the places of delivery a Condition enforced by a penalty Bond executed by all Persons availing themselves of our Licence which was extended on this occasion to the Ships and Vessels under British Colours that might arrive in the River on or before the 31st July and at Backergunge or Chittagong on or before the 20th August. A Similar Permission was allowed on the 3d Ultimo to Vessels under Foreign Flags.

68 The last resolution passed by us on this Subject preparatory to laying the exportation of Rice entirely open as we hope will in a few Weeks be in our Power was on the 10th Ultimo when we extended the Permission of Exporting Rice to British or Foreign Vessels arriving after the Periods specified in the preceding Paragraph without an express limitation of time and only retaining the former restriction as to the places of delivery, which are Certain Ports in the Northern Circars specified in the engagements executed by the Exporters of Grain. Copies of the Minutes recorded by the Members of the Board in discussing this Subject on the 13th and 31st of July attend you Numbers in the Packet.

69 The distresses of the Districts of Ganjam appearing to exceed if possible in their degree those of the neighbouring Countries and the President at that Station having represented to us in a Letter dated the 2nd of July that on account of the Superior Opulence of other Places in the Northern Circars it was not probable that private adventurers would be desirous of importing Rice at Ganjam we were induced to instruct the Commander of the General Goddard to hold himself in readiness to proceed to that Port with a Supply of Grain. The Commander of the *Valentine Hall* received Similar Orders and the Board of Trade have been instructed to purchase the necessary Supplies and to Superintend the loading of the Ships. We have also determined to send Consignments of Grain to the Settlements of Masulipatam and Vizagapatam on the *Melville Castle* and *Ponsborne* which will be ready to sail in a few days.

and India, by British Subjects Trading under Foreign Flags, we have now to lay before you an Extract of a Letter, Dated the 4th Ultimo, which has been addressed to us, in this Department, by the Governor in Council at Fort St. George.

79. "Having on Receipt of your Letter of the 21st March, directed the necessary enquiries to be made relative to the Ship *Henrietta*, we were informed that She had left this Port for the Malbar Coast, and that Mr. James Bishop had reported himself to be Commander, in the Manifest of her Cargo supposing it likely, that She may go to Bombay we transmitted to that Presidency, Copies of the Reports delivered in by our Master Attendant and Sea-Customer, it appears, however, that the Vessel proceeded no further than Telli-cherry, from whence she soon after returned to this place, with a Cargoe of Rice, Shipped by the Chief and Factors, on the Company's Account."

80. "The Bills of Lading for this Rice were Signed by James Bishop, as Commander, who upon the Ships Coming into the Road, quitted her "Suspecting, probably, that some Information had been laid against him. We gave immediate Orders to the Master Attendant to make the necessary enquiries after him, but he has reported to us that he cannot discover, whether Captain Bishop is gone. As the *Henrietta* proceeded from this Port to the Northward, we have the honor to transmit your Lordship one of the Bills of lading Signed by Mr. Bishop, as Commander, in the hope that it may enable you, should he appear at Calcutta, to establish the Points necessary to Convict him of a breach of the Statutes relative to the Company's Trade."

81. This Evidence against Mr. Bishop will be of importance if he should visit Bengal. We have submitted to you what has been written about him by the Governor in Council, that you may make what use of it you deem proper if Mr. Bishop should make his appearance in England.

Bombay

82. We informed you, in the 40th Paragraph of our Advices by the *Dutton*, that we had called upon your Government of Bombay to furnish us with Correct Statements of the deliveries made there, and at the other Settlements on the Malabar Coast, upon account of Mr. Mair's Rice Contracts, with a Report of the result of the measures they had been desired to take in respect to the Consignments Misappropriated by Mr. Adamson, and such further information on the Subject, in general, as should enable us to come to a final adjustment with Mr. Mair's Securities.



of allowance for deficiencies in the delivery of Consignments, particularly *Grain*, and informing us that they had appointed a Committee, composed of professional Persons, to determine the Rates that ought to be considered as the Established Port allowance, and admitted as such by the Company and private Merchants.

Cons. 20 June

74. Your Hon'ble. Court will perceive by perusal of the Committee's report that 3 per Cent is deemed an adequate Port allowance on *Rice from Bengal on European or Country Vessels*, and that, if any further loss arise, it can only proceed from Stress of Weather or other extraordinary causes which ought to be Established by the usual mode of regular Protests.

75. This Opinion of the Committee has induced us to resolve that, whenever we take up Freight, we shall stipulate that all the *Rice shipped on account of the Company*, that may arrive at Madras, is to be delivered, bona fide, and that no greater allowance will be made, on any account for deficient deliveries than three per Cent.

76. Our Consultations, referred to in the Margin Contain a recommendation from the Board of Revenue at Fort St. George for the reestablishment of the Salt Trade with Bengal on the Ground of the Benefit to be derived from that Measure to the Northern Sircars. We have not yet replied to this suggestion; but we shall be obliged to decline adopting it; as the same reasons, affecting a very important Branch of your Revenue from this Country, that induced your Government here to Stop the Trade several years ago; still exist; and it is always in our Power (as in the late Instance of the Agreement concluded with Mr. Hall at Madras by the Governor General) to contract for partial Supplies from the Coast, whenever the State of the Manufacture in Bengal Makes it advisable to introduce a quantity of Foreign Salt into the Market, in order to Moderate the retail Price of this necessary Article of Consumption to the lower Classes of Inhabitants.

Cons. 13 July.

77. Lord Cornwallis, while he remained at Madras, having delivered it as his Opinion to that Government that the Consignments of Treasure, on the Ships *Ganges and Europa*, intended for China might be more advantageously employed for your Interests by sending them to Bengal, to Assist in paying off the 12 per Cent Loan, his Lordship's recommendation was adopted and the Treasure has arrived, amounting by Invoice, to £ Sterling 143292. 00. 4.

78. In our Letter to the Secret Committee, by the Dutton we communicated to them very fully the Informations which had been laid before us relative to the Commerce carried on between Europe

sent, for your fuller information on this Subject, Numbers in the Packet.

89. In the Proceedings of the date annexed, your Hon'ble. Court will find recorded a Letter from the Bombay Government, relative to one dated the 7th of September 1791 relative  
 Cons. 4 April to proposals for pecuniary Aids to their Presidency. In this Letter they expressed their hope that some regular mode might be adopted for the Supply of their wants. They said their disbursements still greatly exceeded their Means of providing for them; that they did not expect that any more Cash would be tendered to them on advantageous terms; and that they had Constantly found Advertisements for pecuniary Supplies disadvantageous.

90. This Letter was referred to the Accountant General, whose report upon it is entered on our Proceedings of the 11th of April. We complied with his Recommendation, by authorizing the Resident at Poona, who had already informed us that Offers had been made to him, by the Shroffs at that place, to enter into Engagements for a Monthly Supply at Bombay, of Rupees 2,50,000 for Bills on Benares to them if he should find that he could accomplish the Remittance on better Terms than could be negotiated by the Resident at Benares or the Government of Bombay, who were desired to notify to the Resident at Poona the Terms they obtain for this Supply.

91. Before the effect of these instructions to the Government at Bombay and to the Resident at Poona could be known we received information from Lord Cornwallis, whom we had requested, previous to our knowledge of the final termination of the War, to devise the means of procuring pecuniary Supplies for the Army acting under the Orders of General Abercromby, that the pay of that Army had been provided for, to the Month of September inclusive, by the appropriation of 18 lakhs of Rupees of the Money received from Tippoo Sultaun, and that there were resources applicable to the wants of the Bombay Presidency, equal to above Seven lakhs of Rupees more.

92. In consequence of these Advices we suspended the Execution of the Authorities we had given to the Presidency of Bombay and to the Residents at Poona and Benares; but  
 Cons. 11 May it appears by advices received from the former, under date the 14th of July, that they had, on that Day, actually concluded an Engagement with a Native Banker for paying into the Company's Treasury there for Bills on Benares two lakhs and a half of Rupees Monthly for the term  
 Cons. 13 Aug. of one year at the exchange of 96. 1. Bombay Rupees for 100

83. The Statements they were able to furnish have been lately received but they cannot be considered as affording sufficient grounds for the final adjustment of the Accounts; nor can these be settled until the directions, which we have found it necessary to transmit to Bombay to recommence proceedings against Mr. Adamson shall have produced their effect.

84. Your Hon'ble. Court will observe, on reference to our Proceedings of the annexed Dates the extraordinary and unaccountable Conduct of the Mayor's Court at Bombay, which rendered necessary the directions mentioned in the preceding Paragraph.

85. The Company's Solicitor, at that Presidency, appears to have been fully justified, as well by the opinion of the late Advocate General, Mr. Davies, as by that of his Successor Mr. Burroughs, in framing the Bill of Complaint against Mr. Adamson, for his misappropriations, in the Name of the Company, instead of that of the Securities and you will perceive that Mr. Burroughs, in his Letter recorded on the 20th of June, is clearly of Opinion that there was no sufficient Ground for the Defendant's Demurring to the Plaint as he did and that the Conduct of the Mayor's Court is granting an Order of dismissal upon such a Demurrer not only violates the principles of Law and Equity, but appears to him "without the least Colour of Support from the plain rules of Common Sense."

86. The first Question to be brought forward in the Court of Appeal, which Consists of the Governor and Members of the Council, is whether the Order of the Mayor's Court, directing the dismissal of the Suit was proper or not; and your Advocate General appears to entertain no doubt that this question will be decided in the negative, in which Case the second question will not arise, *Viz.* "How far that order ought to operate as a Bar to a new Suit on the part of the Company".

87. Tho' both Mr. Burroughs, and your standing Council Mr. Shaw, are clearly of Opinion that such order, however proper, ought not to operate as a Bar to a new Suit, some doubts may reasonably be entertained of Success Should the cause be again brought before the same Court that on a former occasion, was induced to pass a decision which you will probably deem worthy of Serious Animadversion.

88. Copies of the Demurrer sent in by Mr. Adamson's Attorney, of the Order of Dismission, of the Letter addressed by your Solicitor to the Government of Bombay and of Mr. Burroughs's to us, will be

Government of Fort St. George, on the Subject of it, both as it related to the Commercial plan, of which you had before approved, and of which Mr. Manington had been appointed to the Superintendence, as to that Gentleman's Personal situation with regard to Allowances.

97. Lord Cornwallis, soon after his return to this Presidency, laid before the Board several Letters which he had received at Madras from Mr. Manington, and acquainted us that his Lordship had thought it right, upon considering that Gentleman's situation, as represented in his Letter that an advance might be made to him, on Account, by the Government of Madras to the Extent of 2000 Pagodas.

Cons. 3 Augt.  
Sep. Fort Marl-  
bro' proceedings.

98. His Lordship then proceeded to recommend that, as long as Mr. Manington should continue unemployed upon the duty assigned him by your Orders (as must necessarily be the Case for some Months) his Allowance Should be fixed at 150 Pagodas per Mensem, to Commence from the 24th of July 1791, the day of his arrival at Fort Marlbro. Instructions have been transmitted to Fort St. George, in Compliance with his Lordship's recommendation; and the Government of Bencoolen is to be debited for the amount, deducting from it the Sum that was advanced to Mr. Manington, as above-mentioned.

99. Advices, very lately received, from Fort Marlbro', bearing date the 24th of March and 14th of April, Contain the satisfactory information of their having dispatched the Lord Hawkesbury to Europe, on the 18th of the preceding Month, with a full Cargo of Black and white Pepper, and that there was still a sufficient quantity remaining in their Ware Houses to load the Asia when she should arrive.

100. An application made to us in the Letter from Fort Marlbro' dated the 24th of March, for a Company of Lascars and Artificers is referred to Lord Cornwallis for his Consideration, as well as another from Captain Hamilton, the Commanding Officer at that Presidency respecting the loss of the Cloathing, sent by the Foulis, for the Military for the year 1791.

#### Andamans

101. No Dispatches of a very late Date have been received from the Andamans. The last which arrived in the Month of April represent the Settlement to be healthy and the Natives as becoming more familiarized to Europeans and satisfied of their good intentions towards them.

Cons. 18 April

Benares Rupees at 51 days Sight, these terms being much more favorable than any that could be procured either by Sir Charles Malet or Mr Duncan.

93 Our Accountant General having some time Since represented that the Registers of Bills of Exchange, drawn upon by the Bombay Government, were irregularly transmitted, the Circumstance was noticed in our Correspondence with the Governor in Council, and the Complaint drew from the Accountant at Bombay certain Observations, which with Mr. Larkins reply to them, will be found on our Proceedings of the Dates annexed.

Cons 25 May  
8 June

94. The Regulation proposed by our Accountant General, relative to the Weekly transmission of the Registers by the Accountant at Bombay, was immediately adopted by that Presidency; and we on our part approved of a proposition, made by their Accountant, that the Registers should be forwarded immediately from his to the Accountant General's Office in Bengal.

Cons. 13 Augt.

95. We beg leave to point out to your Notice an Opinion delivered by the Government of Bombay in a Letter dated the 29th of February, on the Subject of the Productions of the Rajah of Travencore's Country, more particularly Pepper, to which they appear to think that the Company possess an exclusive Claim. You will observe, by a Reference to our Proceedings that our Sentiments upon this Point did not concur with those of the Members of the Council at Bombay, for however forcible and Just your Pretensions be to a liberal Consideration, on the Part of the Rajah, upon every Subject that may furnish him with Occasions of acknowledging the generosity and Justice of your Government, still he is an independent Prince, over whose Possessions we have, of Right, no actual and direct Power; and it, besides, stands acknowledged by the Bombay Board, that he has actually contracted for the delivery of a Quantity of Pepper, to the Extent of three thousand Candies, which is double the Quantity he before supplied; and he has contributed a considerable Sum, annually, to defray the Expences of the War.

Cons. 4 April

Cons. 4 April

Fort Marlbro'

96. In our Advices, by the Dutton, we informed your Hon'ble Court that we had referred to Lord Cornwallis an Application made to us by Mr. Marington, formerly of your Civil Service at Fort Marlbro', requesting his Lordship to give such instructions to the

109. We approved of the Proposition, as well as of the mode suggested for carrying it into Effect, which was that the Deputy Accountant General should be intrusted with the Conduct of the Business, and that the Promissory Notes should not be brought upon the Register before they were actually disposed of. We also adopted the Suggestion of the Accountant General that no Notes should be granted for a Smaller Sum than Current Rupees 500.

110. The Sub Treasurer was furnished with a Warrant, in the first Instance for the issue of Promissory Notes, bearing Interest at the Rate of 8 Per Cent, to the Extent of five  
 Cons. 3d Augt. Lacks of Current Rupees, and the Notes were delivered to such Persons as produced an Order from the Deputy Accountant General, Specifying the Amount engaged to be paid for the same. This sum having been appropriated, another Warrant has been granted for a similar Amount.

111. We took into our Consideration on the 18th of April, the negotiable state of the Certificates and Promissory Notes, bearing an Interest of 6 Per Cent per annum; and, finding  
 Cons. 18 April that the Value of this Paper was unduly depreciated, and its Currency materially impeded, We thought it expedient to take immediate measures for restoring it to its proper standard.

112. You will observe, that, in considering this Subject, the depreciation of the 6 Per Cent Paper was imputed, in a great measure to its having been excluded from the Subscription to the Company's Remittance, and that we thought it should be no longer subject to such a Disadvantage. The Grounds of this Opinion, and the measures We adopted in Consequence, are stated in a Minute which will be sent to you a Number in the Packet.

113. Our Proceedings, of the dates annexed contain every thing that has passed on the Subject of some propositions, laid before us by Mr. James Miller, the late Civil Auditor, for a Reform in the mode of Stating the accounts in the Commercial and Revenue Departments, the principal object thereof being to obtain as great a Degree of regularity and uniformity, in entering the Establishments of these Departments of your Service, as the nature of the subject would admit.

Cons. 23 March  
 24 April  
 18 April  
 2 May  
 20 June  
 4 July  
 18 July

114. A Copy of the Civil Auditor's Letter, dated the 21st of August, which accompanied the Book of fixed Establishments, as they stood on the 30th of April last, attends you a number in the Packet, with the Book itself, and the annual List of your Covenanted

102. The Supplies by the Viper which we noticed in an Address  
 Cons. 18 April by the Dutton had been received, and the Provisions  
 were found to be in very good order and of a good  
 quality.

103. Lieut Wales, of the Ranger Sloop had been employed in  
 examining the Shoals and banks in the Neighbourhood of the Islands,  
 tho' without discovering any other Dangers than what had already  
 been pointed out in the General Chart of the Andamans.

104. The Ranger, by which the above advices were received, was  
 Cons. 9 May returned to the Andamans, conveying thither a  
 Comm. and Ship- Supply of Stores and Provisions indented for by  
 ping. Captain Blair.

### Prince of Wales Island

105. We beg leave to refer you to the enclosed Copy of a Letter,  
 dated the 30th of July, which we have lately received from Captain  
 Light, as containing the only intelligence of the least Consequence,  
 from Prince of Wales Island, since we wrote by the Dutton.

Government Loans and Securities. Accounts. Audits, & ca. & ca.

106. We have the satisfaction to inform your Hon'ble. Court  
 that we were enabled, about the Middle of the Month of June last,  
 to Comply with the Suggestions of our Accountant General, recom-  
 mending the Discontinuance of the receipt of further Sums on Loan,  
 at an Interest of 12 Per Cent per Annum, and for discharging, before  
 they became due a part of the 12 Per Cent Loan which had been  
 taken up to defray the extraordinary expences of the War.

107. We were largely assisted in the means of effecting this  
 Object, after providing for the augmentation which was directed  
 to be made to the Investment on the Conclusion of the Peace, by  
 the supply of Treasure received from Madras by the Ganges and  
 Europa, and by Remittances sent to the Presidency by the Resident  
 at Benares.

108. You will observe, by referring to a Letter from the Account-  
 ant General, recorded on the Proceedings of the annexed Date, that  
 Cons. 27 June the measure was immediately productive of the  
 happiest Effects in restoring the Credit of your  
 Paper Securities, and that he was induced, by this Success to propose  
 the Negotiation of 8 Per Cent Promissory Notes, payable according  
 to priority of date, to aid the Discharge of the Notes bearing Interest  
 at 12.

120. With a View therefore to ascertaining where the Evil lay, and How it might best be remedied, as well as for the other purposes described in our Resolutions, We appointed a Committee to investigate the Subject, and report upon it as early as possible.

Messrs. Herbert Harris

G. H. Barlow

A. Caldicott

&

Lieutt. Golding

were appointed [on?] the Committee, and furnished with Instructions for their Guidance. A Copy of these Instructions will be sent a number in the Packet.

121. We were induced, in addition to the above instructions, upon Complaints that were made of the great obstacles to the Currency of the Sicca Rupee in the Districts of Luckypore, where the Commercial Resident could not dispose of that Specie in advances to the Weavers but at a Considerable Loss to desire the Committee to lay their Opinion before us whether the fixing certain determinate rates, relative to the Sicca Rupee, at which all Species of Coin, not Sicca Rupees, should be received would not have a tendency to facilitate the introduction of, and give Currency to, the Sicca Species.

122. The first Article of the Committee's Instructions having required them to point out to us the Causes of the delay in Coining the Bullion, sent to the Mint, this was very properly considered by them as a Subject of the Most pressing Consequence, and their Attention was immediately directed to it.

123. We beg leave to refer you to their Letter dated 26th of June, by which it Appears that the principal Cause of delay, in coining the Bullion in the Calcutta Mint, was the want of an Adequate Establishment of People for preparing Planchests, and the Committee were induced, therefore, to recommend that a discretionary power should be given them to increase or diminish the Establishment of Workmen, employed in that branch; in proportion to the greater or less quantity of Bullion that Might be sent to the Mint for Coinage.

124. We immediately complied with this Proposition; and had the Satisfaction to find that the Establishment, when increased to double its former Standard, did not exceed 700 Rupees a Month in Addition to the former Expence, a Sum Comparatively small, and of no Moment, when Set Against



Servants, with their allowances, at the same Period. The Civil Auditor, in his Letter, fully explains the principle upon which the Book has been framed, and the Principal Causes of increase and decrease in the Establishments, as they stood on the 30th of April 1792 Compared with their amount on the 30th of April 1791.

### Mint and New Coinage

115. We have repeatedly, in former Advices, brought before Your Hon'ble. Court the Subject of the new Coinage of Gold and Silver; and we are still to request your attention to it as a measure of the greatest Consequence to the Good of this Country.

116. The Department of the Mint being so Circumstanced that some change in the System, or alteration in its Establishment became advisable, the business was taken into Consideration on the 2nd. of May.

Cons. 2 May

117. It appeared that the Amount advanced by the Treasury, for the Mint Masters Certificates of Bullion delivered into the Mint, above the Returns of the produce of Bullion into the Treasury, was on the

31st January 1792 CRs	.	.	.	.	503,000	—	—
and on the 31st of March	.	.	.	.	24,40,701	6	7
					<hr/>		
					CRs.	30,37,701	6 1

making an encrease in two Months of near twenty Lakhs and a half of Current Rupees.

118. The heavy balance, which was there found to be due by the Mint, when Compared with Coinage in the Months of February, March and April, Shewed that there must either have been some radical deficit in the arrangement or Insufficiency in the operative Establishment of this Department, and that till one or the other should be corrected, the arrears of the Mint were liable to accumulate, and Consequently much prejudice and Inconvenience were likely to arise to the Merchantile and other Interest of the Settlement, while so large a proportion of Specie was withheld from Circulation.

119. The state of the Coinage, in the Months of February, March and April was as follows.

	Gold	Silver	Total Siccas
In February only	2,98,400	3,42,467-12-0	6,40,867-12-0
In March only	3,08,000	4,67,000	7,75,000
In April only	1,12,000	4,48,000	6,49,600

future may be added to the Table; and in the mean time, the Collectors will continue to receive Such Rupees, and to give the Zemindars Credit for them, at the Bazar Rates of Batta, according to the late Regulations.

129. Copies of two Advertisements Connected with the Subject of the Mint, attend you Numbers in the Packet. The one, which was published at the recommendation of the Committee on the 20th June Contains the regulations we have Adopted for receiving Bullion at the Mint, and the issue of Coin in Sicca Rupees, and the Other gives Notice that Promissory Notes, payable according to priority of date, and bearing an Interest of 8 Per Cent Per Annum, will be granted until further Orders, in exchange for the Assay Masters Certificates of the Produce of Bullion delivered at the Mint, to all Persons who may prefer receiving the former to waiting until the produce of their Bullion can be returned to them from the Mint in Coin.

130. We beg leave to refer your Hon'ble. Court to a Copy of a Minute from the Governor General recorded on our Proceedings of the 20th Ultimo, and transmitted a Number in Cons. 20 Augt. the Packet, Stating the Reasons, which induced us to Transfer Mr. Herbert Harris from the Office of Mint Master, to that of Assay Master, for which he is particularly well Qualified, and to Appoint Mr. James Miller, late Civil Auditor, to the former Office, in which, at a period when the Business of the Mint is so greatly increased, we expect to derive much Advantage from his Attention and Assiduity.

131. In Conformity to the principle, which has been adopted, that the emoluments of the Officers of Government should be fixed and determinate in their Amount the Mint Master, instead of the Allowances he before enjoyed, consisting partly of a Salary, and partly of a Commission on the Coinage, and amounting, exclusive of house rent, in the year ending in May 1792, to Rs. 53,229, is now allowed a fixed Salary of 2250 Rs. a Month; and Mr. Harris, in Consideration of his Rank and former Services, as well as his peculiar talents in the Business of Assaying, is permitted to draw a Similar Allowance which is declared Subject to Reduction Whenever he may quit the Office.

132. By our late resolutions, the Offices of Mint Master and Assay Master are made entirely independent of each Other, both are subject to the Superintendence and Control of the Mint Committee. The former Officer, for reasons Set forth in the Governor General's Minute, is now excluded from a Seat at that Committee.

the loss Sustained by the Inability of Government to appropriate the large Amount in Bullion then lying in the Mint uncoined.

125. Other Regulations and some Encrease of Establishment were proposed by the Committee, and Authorized by us. They will be found in the Proceedings to which we refer:

Cons. 30 July  
6 Augt.  
20 Augt.

some of them relating to the Conduct of the Business of the Several reestablished Mints of Moorshedabad, Patna, and Dacca. At the former of these Cities Lieutt. Agg. of the Engineers, having been Sent from the Duties of his Corps, has been Appointed to Act as Assay Master; but previous to his taking Charge of the Office, he

Cons. 15 June

was instructed to remain here, for some time, to practise the Art of Assaying at the Calcutta Mint; and orders were given to Mr. Blake, who fills a Similar Office at Patna, to repair to the Presidency for the Same purpose. The Assay Masters at the Subordinates were made independent of the Mint Master, and directed to Correspond with, and received Orders from, the Committee to whose directions the Mint Master himself is also Subject.

126. The Committee's report on the Second Article of their Instructions, by which they were directed to enquire into the Obstacles that have arisen to the General Currency of the

Consn. 20 Augt.

Sicca Rupee, and to recommend such regulations as they should think best Calculated to give the Orders of Government upon this Subject full and Complete effect, was received on the 12th of August; and as it contains valuable information on this important Subject, and Comprizes a Body of regulations framed With a View to draw into the Mints the Old and light Coins, and thus to Establish the Currency of the Sicca Rupee, we propose to transmit a Copy of it a Number in the Packet.

127. We shall proceed to publish the Regulations in the Mode proposed by the Committee, as soon as the Table of rates of Batta, which they have promised, shall have been laid before us, and that there may be no unnecessary Delay, we have desired them to prepare the Table as far as they can complete it from the Materials now in their possession.

128. The Several Collectors will be instructed to inform them if any Sorts of Rupees that they may receive in Payment of the Revenue, and May not be included in the Table, and they will forward to the Committee Without Delay, One hundred of each Denomination, indiscriminatingly taken from their Receipts, in Order that they may be Assayed, and that the Rates, at which they are to be Valued in

7th. All Bullion brought for Coinage shall be tendered to the Mint Master, who shall give the Customary acknowledgement for it, and send it to the Assay Master to be Assayed in its turn agreeably to the existing Regulations. If the Proprietor shall apply for a Promissory Note for the produce of the Bullion, as Estimated by the Assay, the Mint Master shall grant him the usual Certificate, which shall be exchanged for a Promissory Note when presented at the Treasury. The Bullion will then be the property of Government, and the Mint Master shall refine and Coin it in its turn. If the proprietor shall prefer waiting until his Bullion is Coined, and receiving the actual produce, whatever it may turn out, the Mint Master shall grant him the usual Certificate, and refine and Coin the Bullion in the Order prescribed by the Regulations, and pay the proceeds to the Proprietor.

8th. The Mint Master and the Assay Master are to hold their Offices and transact their business at the Mint, where the Registers mentioned in the Advertizement of the 20th June last, published in the Gazette, are to be opened for public inspection.

9th. The Mint Master and Assay Master shall immediately report to the Mint Committee what descriptions of Officers, now Employed in the Mint and Assay Office, it will be necessary to place under their respective Authorities to enable them to execute the duties above prescribed to them.

10th. The Mint Master and Assay Master shall send to the Civil Auditor, on the 1st of each Month an Estimate of the Sum required to defray the fixed and Contingent Charges of their respective Offices for the Current Month, the Amount of which, when approved by the Governor General in Council will be issued from the General Treasury. It is to be understood, however, that the Mint and Assay Masters are not to issue the Amount of their respective Establishments until the usual Notification shall have been published in the Gazette, and that the Advance for the Estimated Contingent Charges is not to preclude the Bill for the actual Contingent Charges from undergoing the usual Audit before it be Charged in the Monthly Accounts.

135. The Mint Committee have recently recommended, and we have Authorized, certain repairs and additions to the Mint, according to a Plan and Estimate submitted by Mr. Herbert  
 Cons 24 Aug. Harris. The expence for an Object of so much importance will not, we hope, be thought too great at Sixca Rupees 7,378.12. A part of the Plan consists of the Construction of New Furnaces, so contrived as to obviate fatal Consequences to the lives

133. We have received a Letter, dated the 25th of last Month from Mr. Miller, lately Appointed Mint Master, Acquainting us that upon a Mature Consideration of the Subject, he has Reason to apprehend very Serious difficulties and Obstacles to the safe and regular Transfer of the Responsibility of the Mint from the late Mint Master to himself, while the Business continues in an uninterrupted State of Progression in all its Branches, and he has submitted to us the Propriety of Allowing the whole Property at the Mint, now under Process, to be duly ascertained, by finishing that part of the Coinage before any other be entered upon, which he does not apprehend would occasion any Material Delay.

134. The Mint Master and Assay Master in the Calcutta Mint being, in future, to be independent of each other, it has become necessary to define their respective Duties. With this view, and to enable the last Mint Master to make up his Accounts, and to deliver over Charge of the Office to his Successor with Regularity and Dispatch, We have passed the following Resolutions.

1st. That such part of the balance of the Mint, as is deposited in the General Treasury, do remain there until Mr. Harris has closed his Accounts, and delivered over charge to his Successor Mr. Miller.

2nd. That Mr. Harris be desired to deliver in, without delay, an Account of the Gold and Silver Bullion, now under Process in the Assay Office and Mint, specifying to whom it belongs, and that he be enjoined to convert it into Coin with as little delay as possible.

3rd. That, as soon as this shall have been Effected, Mr. Harris to close his Accounts, and deliver over Charge of the Mint to Mr. Miller.

4th. That, in the mean time, Mr. Miller do attend at the Mint for the purpose of acquiring a knowledge of the Conduct and Ability of the several Officers employed there.

5th. That all Bullion tendered, from this date, be received by Mr. Miller, the Mint Master, who shall give the Customary Acknowledgement for the same, and send it to the Treasury, where it shall remain until Mr. Harris has Closed his Accounts, and delivered over charge of the Mint as directed in the 1st Article.

6th. That as soon as Mr. Harris shall have delivered over Charge to Mr. Miller, the business of the Mint and Assay Office shall be conducted in the manner following:

140. As it certainly was our meaning to comprize, in the Order given to the Company's Attorney, every description of Natives, whether permanent or occasional Residents, coming within the view of it, and as the Complaints upon which we proceeded, had been brought before us by persons of the former description, we did not hesitate to explain our directions accordingly, referring however the Company's Attorney to the Advocate General, in case any doubt should arise upon the best mode of proceeding against those people.

141. The only beneficial effect, hitherto reported to us to have arisen from the Order in question (exclusive of such as may be supposed to have proceeded from its being generally known that the practices which are the Object of them, have attracted the notice of Government) consists in the delivery of three innocent Natives of Sylhet, by Order of the Supreme Court, from their Confinement in the Goal of Calcutta, into which they had been thrown in Consequence of the false Oaths of two persons called Rampersaud Champauty and Guddahur Dutt.

Cons. 15 June  
27 June

142. The last mentioned Offender, having been secured, was indicted for perjury at the late Assizes, and the Bill was found by the Grand Jury; but the Forms of law would not admit of the trial for the indictment going on until the Civil Action for Debt was disposed of; neither could the Defendant in that Action take any steps to obtain a Non Pros. against the Plaintiff, till after the lapse of two terms, without any Proceeding on the part of the latter. Thus is the Prosecution for perjury effectively defeated for the present, and, we fear, ultimately, as it is not to be supposed that the Plaintiff will shew any readiness to expedite the hearing of the Civil Action, and the Indigence, as well as the remote residence, of the parties, lately released from their unjust Confinement, will probably Operate to prevent their return to Calcutta for the purpose of obtaining Justice.

143. It appears by the Company's Attorney's Letters, of the 23rd of June and 17th of July, that persons, besides those abovementioned, have been apprehended for the same offence, and that some of them are detained in Custody while others have been admitted to Bail. But are to take their trial, should Indictments be found against them at the next Assizes.

Cons. 23 May  
8 June  
15 June  
20 June  
27 June  
11 July  
13 July  
18 July

144. The subject has been again brought before us in some recent Instances, when the alarm was so much felt, that the principal Grain Merchants, in Calcutta, under the apprehension of being

of the People employed from refining from the noxious vapours arising from the use of white lead in the Process, which too often was occasioned by the Country method of refining.

136. Our Proceedings, of the annexed date, contain a proposition from the Mint Committee, for certain Alterations in the Coinage, relative to the Melting and the inscription, upon  
 Cons. 20 Augt. which, for the Reasons stated in the Committees Letter, the Hejera Era is in future to be omitted. Specimens of the Coin, as proposed to be executed, accompanied their Letter, and received our Approbation.

### Police

137. The Consultation of the annexed Date contains a Petition from the Mint Committee, for certain Alterations in the Coinage, been very Common in this place of extorting Money  
 Cons. 23 May on various false pretences, and more particularly by swearing to false Debts, and threatening to Commence Suits for their recovery in the Supreme Court.

138. As we were of Opinion that the most probable means of making the discovery of this description of Offenders and bringing them to the Punishment they merited was, in the  
 Cons. 8 June first Instance, to conduct the enquiry without any public Notification of it, we instructed Mr. Meyer, the Superintendant of the Police, to whom we referred the Petition to proceed in such manner as least likely to alarm the Persons, who were the objects of the Complaint, and induce them to seek refuge beyond the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court. The Sheriff we desired to lay before the Superintendant of Police every information he might possess relative to the practises of these people; and the Company's Attorney was directed to furnish Copies of the Affidavits made concerning them before the Judges, if they should be wanted.

139. Two Letters from the Company's Attorney, of the 13th and 18th of June, acquainted us with the steps he had taken in the  
 Cons. 15 June Business, at the requisition of the Superintendant of  
 20 June Police, and in one of them he stated his doubts as to the extent of our intentions in directing as we had done, Prosecutions, upon charges of Perjury, to be Instituted at the Company's expence, against persons who had sworn to false Debts, the Company's Attorney conceiving that these directions were intended to comprehend strangers and occasional Residents in Calcutta only, and not the Native Inhabitants of it who might become objects of the fraudulent practises in question.

composing the Committee, we have no reason to doubt; and their reasons for not exercising greater rigour in retrenching Articles, apparently unnecessary, from the Indents of Public Officers, we trust will be found conclusive.

#### Miscellaneous

149. You were informed by our late advices of the ruinous State of the Old Court House, and that it had been reported incapable of further repair. We referred you, on that occasion, to future explanations respecting the Terms and Conditions on which the Company had occupied, for so many Years, the building in question.

150. These premises appear to have been, for a great Length of Time, under the Charge of the Select Vestry at Calcutta, as Trustees of the Charity School, for the benefit of  
 Cons. 6 Augt. which institution they were maintained and rented by the Company. The support of this Charity continued the Company as Tenants; and, as they occupied the Building, it was occasionally employed as a Town Hall, and otherwise a Place of public entertainment. On its being reported to us that the Building would  
 Cons. 28 June not admit of further repairs, the Vestry desired that we would give such orders respecting it as we thought proper, expressing their readiness to make over any right they might have to the premises, on our Continuing the Monthly rent of Rupees 800, the fund by which the Old Charity School was principally preserved.

151. The humanity of Government being thus interested in Continuing the Allowance, and the Charitable institution in question  
 Cons. 20 June having been found extremely necessary and useful, we determined to accept the Proposal of the Trustees, and accordingly directed the Company's Law Officers to prepare a regular Conveyance and We desired the Vestry to afford them such information for that purpose, as might be in their power.

152. There has been some delay in carrying these Orders into Execution, owing to a Report from the Company's Attorney that  
 Cons. 13 Augt. there are no Deeds in existence, all the papers relating to the Premises, having been, some time since, destroyed by accident; but as the Vestry have held undoubted Possession for a period of near forty Years, and it appears by a Report of the Collector of Calcutta that the ground occupied by the Premises is the property of the Company, your Law Officers appears to entertain no doubt that a Conveyance, sufficiently secure, may be made out under the proper legal forms and precautions.



unjustly seized by people of the Description we have mentioned, actually shut up their Shops, and were leaving the Town. We transmit, in the Packet, a Copy of the Proclamation, which we published in Consequence, and we have the Satisfaction to add that we believe that the alarm has wholly subsided for the present. We have every reason to imagine that the Sitting Magistrate will exert himself, very actively, to bring these Offenders to punishment, when any Complaint, with Grounds to support it, is regularly brought before him.

#### Stationary . . . . .

145. We shall transmit to you, with this Dispatch, Copies of the Survey Reports, given in by Mr. Dickson, one of your Senior Servants, upon the Stationary received by the General Goddard, and a Copy of a Letter from that Gentleman, to which we beg leave to request the attention of your Hon'ble Court Masters of the damaged and inferior Stationary are also forwarded, agreeably to your Orders. We have directed that such part of this Consignment as can be applied to no use whatever shall be burnt, or otherwise destroyed according to your Directions.

146. Mr. James Wintle, who, we informed you in the former part of this address, was appointed to take charge of the Stationary, from the 1st of August, is placed, by our Orders, *Cons. 13 July* precisely in the same situation, with respect to the Stationary Committee, that was held by his Predecessor, Mr. R. Campbell. It is known to your Honble. Court that the Duty of the Committee is to control the expenditure, and that if the Assistant to have charge of the Stores, and to comply with Indents from the different Officers of Government, under the Orders of the Stationary Committee.

147. Previous to the arrival of the General Goddard we were under the necessity of allowing of purchases of Stationary, to be made for the use of the Public Offices; but afterwards we adopted the mode of advertizing for Proposals for the supply of that Article to the extent that might be absolutely necessary for one Month, and according to Estimates prepared by the Stationary Committee. This will now be no longer requisite, except with regard to such Articles as are the produce and Manufacture of this Country, and are not received from Europe.

148. The Disbursements, on the above Accounts we are sorry *Cons. 29 May* to observe have been Considerable; and, on this subject, we beg leave to refer to a Letter addressed to us by the Stationary Committee and recorded on the Proceedings of the date annexed. Of the attention and Zeal of the Gentlemen

159. The Commission of Lunacy, advised by the above Officers being granted on a Petition presented to the Supreme Court by the Company's Attorney, in his own Name, the forms usual in such cases were observed, and Mr. Price was declared a Lunatic without lucid intervals.

160. The above information is contained in a Letter from the Company's Attorney, dated the 25th of June, and recorded on our  
*Cons. 27 June* Proceedings of the 27th of the same Month. The point which forms the subject of the 2d Paragraph of that Letter, and relates to the person to whom the Care of the person and property of the Lunatic shall be committed has since been decided by the Supreme Court in favor of Mr. Joseph Price Junior.

161. In consequence of the above information, which has been recently received, we expect soon to be advised, by your Law Officers, of the Measures they think it advisable to pursue in the prosecution of the several Claims of the Company against Mr. Price. Your Hon'ble. Court will observe, by a reference to Mr. Jackson's Letter of the 25th of June, that, by the Evidence of Mr. Joseph Price Junior, given to the Jury, the Property of his Uncle appears to be no less than Rupees 1,50,000.

162. In our Dispatches of last Season we informed you of the Steps we had taken for the Encouragement of the introduction of the Cassada Root, and its Cultivation in these Provinces, as a resource of food in times of Scarcity. The Reports we have received from the several Collectors, on this Subject, having been, for the most part, favorable, we agreed, at the recommendation of Lieut. Colonel Kyd, to allow of an Establishment at the Expence of 50 Rupees a month, on each of the Collectorships, for the Cultivation of the Root in nursing the Plantations from which it is proposed to propagate the plant, by Ships, thro' the adjacent Districts.

163. Our Proceedings, noted in the Margin, contain remarks by  
*Cons. 2 May* Lieut. Colonel Kyd on the Soil and Cultivation of various Parts of Bengal, to which we beg leave to refer you as containing matter worthy of your attention.

164. The same Gentleman informed us, on the 5th of July, that he had received four plants of the Cinnamon Tree, asserted to be  
*Cons. 13 July* of the best Species, and that they had arrived in as good a state as could be expected for Plants of so tender an age. He further acquainted us that he was indebted,

153. In the mean time, a part of the Building which was so ruinous, as to endanger the safety of persons passing by, has been taken down by our Directions, to prevent any such accidents from occurring.

Cons. 27 June

154. We have not yet been able to procure a determinate answer from the Attornies of Mr. Keir, as to the future Rent of, or price at which their constituent may be willing to let or dispose of the Building now used as a Court House. They have lately informed us, in answer to our enquiries on the Subject, that they were waiting instructions from Mr. Keir, which they expected to receive by the Ships of the present Season.

155. Our Secretary having reported to us that the lower Apartments of the Council House stood in need of great Repair, the Official Records being in Danger of injury or Destruction from Damp, we directed him to call upon the Civil Architect for an Estimate of the expence of making the necessary repairs, including that of flueing the Floors. The Estimate, presented by the above mentioned Officer, appearing too high we directed the Secretary to have the Work done upon lower terms if that was in his Power, and he accordingly concluded an Engagement with a Native Bricklayer who has completed it for 3934 being 900 Rupees less than the Sum estimated by the Civil Architect.

Cons. 15 June

156. On the 15th of June Mr. Stuart layed before us a Letter which he had received, on the preceding Day, from Messrs. Fleming and Dick, containing the melancholy information that Mr. Joseph Price, whom we had suspended from the Office of Marine Paymaster during the Prosecution we had ordered to be commenced upon the Complaints relative to Diamond Harbour, was in a State of Insanity, and that his Case appeared to these Gentlemen to be such as to afford little hope of Recovery.

Cons. 15 June

157. We proceeded immediately to take the measures, which appeared to us to be necessary, to secure your Interests against Eventual loss upon the suit instituted against Mr. Price and others by Mr. J. J. Keighly, in which the Company are parties. Instructions to the above effect were given to your Attorney at Law, directing him, at the same time to obtain a Commission of Lunacy against Mr. Price in the name of the Company, if that step had not been already taken by any of his friends.

158. Mr. Jackson's Answer is recorded on our Consultations of the 20th of June, and a Copy of the Proceedings held on the points referred, attends you a Number in the Packet.

Cons. 20 June

in the Country, are found in the Streets of Calcutta, labouring under Diseases, which often prove fatal for want of care and medical Assistance, and from the exposure of the objects, affected by them, to the *intemperance of the Climate*.

172. Upon taking these Circumstances into our Consideration, we were of Opinion that persons, in the Situation we have described, were proper objects of relief in the Company's  
 Cons. 20 July Hospitals at their expence, as, without some such Provision, they were left to depend on the precarious benevolence of individuals, who, if induced by their Humanity to recommend poor Objects, of this description, for admission into the Hospitals, were charged with the Monthly expence of their maintenance, and, in the Event of death, with the funeral Charges.

173. Influenced by these Considerations we have authorized the Superintendent of the Police to send, for admission, into the General Hospital any Europeans of the description, and under the Circumstances, above mentioned, who may be found in the streets of Calcutta or its Neighbourhood; and the Hospital Board have been instructed to report, Monthly, the Numbers admitted and discharged, with the expence of their maintenance and any other Disbursement that may have been made on their account.

174. A Memorial from Mr. Thomas Motte, late Superintendent of Police, is recorded on our Proceedings of the annexed date; and  
 Cons. Aug. lies at present for Consideration.

175. A List of Appointments which have taken place, since our last dispatch, including those of the New Writers lately arrived, attends you a Number in the Packet.

176. The State of our Treasury is as follows.

Ready Money

Gold Mohours	16,543,13	2,64 701	3,07,053.2.7
Siccas	.	1,93 483 4.6	2,24,440.9.8
Copper Coin	74,496	2,328	2,700.7.8
			<hr/>
			5,34,194.3.11
Bills Receivable		2,980.14.9	3,457.1.9
			<hr/>
Current Rupees			5,37,652.19

for this acquisition, to Mr Martin at Palamcottah, and that they had been forwarded by Captain Kyd, the Surveyor General, from Tutacoreen

165 Your Hon'ble Court having desired that some Shaul Goats may be sent to Europe, Lieutenant Colonel Kyd proposes to send two by the Ganges Captain Garnault will be directed to take proper care of these animals, and to attend to your Orders concerning them but if on their arrival at St Helena, they should prove sickly, they are to be detained, under the care of the Governor Mr Brooke, to be forwarded by a subsequent Ship

167\* Mr Hughes the Nursery Man, at the Botanical Garden, being lately deceased, we beg leave to request that you will send out, without Delay, a proper person to succeed him in that situation He should be practised in the Methods observed in the Gardens in the Environs of London and if he be a man of some Science, and has had the advantage of seeing well laid out Grounds, and possesses a mild Disposition, his Services will be the more acceptable

168 We have the honor to forward, by the present Conveyance the remainder of the Original Plans transmitted by the Chief Engineer, in addition to those which were sent on the Dutton A List of the Plans as prepared by Lieutenant Colonel Wood, attends you a number in the packet

169 We have had frequent occasion of late, to complain of the  
 Cons 13 Augt Delays and interruptions suffered by the Mail between this place and Madras, which has been ascribed in part to the famine raging in the Countries between Balasore and the Kistna and lately a Complaint has been brought before us of the Dawks having been detained 24 hours in the Mahratta Districts

170 On the 16th of July we received a Letter from the Post Master General informing us that the Hircarrah and Guide, who were conveying the Packets of the 2d of that  
 Cons 18 July Month, had been robbed and Murdered between Jagernaut and Narsingapatam places situated in that Portion of the Province of Orissa which belongs to the Rajah of Berar, to whose representative at Cuttack the Governor General has written concerning the Outrage, as well as the detention of the Dawk mentioned in the preceding paragraph

171 It frequently happens more particularly at this Season of the Year on account of the arrivals of the Ships from Europe that Europeans of the lower Class, destitute of friends or Connections

\* Wrong numbering of paragraphs from here onwards is apparently due to a clerical error

3. Since our last Advices we have had the honour to receive your Commands by the several Conveyances of your Ships Ponsborne Busbridge, Belmont and Earl of Talbot, under the respective dates of the 14th of March, 11th of April, 16th and 30th May, and to these we shall now reply.

Answer to the General Letter dated the 14th of March 1792. Received  
Per Ponsborne

4. (Para. 1.) Date of last advices.      Para. 1, 2. Do not require any Answer.

Para 2. Acknowledges the receipt of the several Letters from this Presidency  
Per Swallow

5. (Para. 3.) Information that Rupees or Pagodas have been Counterfeited for the purpose of being disposed of in India. We are to use Vigilance to detect this abuse and prevent the consequences that may otherwise happen. Have no knowledge of the quarter whence the intelligence is derived, and the whole may therefore possibly be unfounded. The Informant thinks that the fraudulent Coin Consists only of Pagodas. Their intrinsic value about 1s/4d. each.
- Para. 3. The intimation given in this Paragraph will not be overlooked; and we shall not neglect the means of obtaining Information should any Attempt be made to introduce any of the Counterfeit Coin into Circulation in this Place; but as your Orders have a more immediate Reference to the Presidency of Fort St. George, we mentioned them to the Governor in Council at that Settlement.

6. (Para. 4.) Mr. John Hannay, a Senior Merchant, permitted to return to the Company's Service, to rank next below Mr. J. Willes.
- Para. 4. Mr. Hannay's name has (been) inserted in the List of the Company's Servants, in the Place assigned to him by your orders.

7. (Para. 5.) Mr. Thomas Hickey, Portrait Painter, has leave to return to Bengal.
- Para. 5, 6, 7, 8. Do not require any Answer.

Unsorted Treasure	177
Balance Account Deposits . . . . .	1,17,393.11
Balance Accountant General Mayor's Court .	1,04,930.3 2
Balance Old Bond Debt on which the interest has ceased by public Advertisement	36,102.2
Balance New Bond Debt . . . . .	1,15,19,855.9.6
Balance Madras Military Arrears . . . .	25,10,282.0.
Balance Bombay Military Arrears .	20,63,589.5.11
Balance loans taken up at 12 Per Cent . . .	65,05,782.10.3
	<hr/>
	2,28,57,934.14.3

Fort William  
3rd. September, 1792.  
[Per Ganges]

We have the Honor to be,  
Hon'ble Sirs,  
Your most faithful Humble Servants  
Cornwallis, Peter Speke, Wm. Cowper.

## 22

## LETTER DATED 14 DECEMBER 1792

*Prevention of circulation of counterfeit coins—Burrows' book of geographical and astronomical observations—appointment of committees for China—copies of Hamilton's commentary on Muslim law—Fairlie's case and remittance to Canton—removal of embargo on grain—supply of rice to Northern Sarkars—salt contract—Mair and rice contract—Kyd to take useful plants to the Andamans—despatch of opium to Prince of Wales Island—request of King of Siam for help—mint affairs—Company's remittance, loans and securities—translation of a medical work entitled Alfazaul-advia.*

TO the Hon'ble The Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble The United Company of Merchants of England Trading to the East Indies.

Hon'ble Sirs,

1. We had the honour to address you on the 3rd of September last by the Ganges, and we forwarded a duplicate of her dispatches by the Europa.

2. By the General Goddard, now under Sailing Orders, we transmit a Continuation of our Proceedings for the Months of August, September, October and November, and Index, and the other Papers mentioned in the List of the Packet.

12. (Para. 6.) Names of Writers in further part of the number agreed to be sent last Season.      Para. 6 & 7. Do not require any Answer.

(Para. 7.) Resolutions of the Honble. House of Commons on the 15th and 28th of March relative to the late Wars.

Answer to the General Letter, dated the 16th of May, 1792, and received Per Belmont

13. (Para. 1.) Names of the Committee of Secrecy for Shipping. The Orders of any three of the Committee to be obeyed.      Para. 12. The Orders contained in these Paragraphs will be duly attended to.

(Para. 2.) Names of the Secret Committee appointed, according [to] the Acts of the 24th and 26th of his present Majesty. Their Orders to be punctually obeyed.

14. (Para. 3.) Names of the Secret and Superintending Committee of Supracargoes in China.      Para. 3, 4, 5. Do not require any Answer.

(Para. 4.) Name of the Select Committee of Supracargoes in China;      Para. 6. The instructions in this Paragraph will be properly attended to.

(Para. 5.) And of the Supracargoes under the said Committee.

15. (Para. 6.) Have appointed fourteen Writers for our Presidency this Season. Approve of the distribution of those who arrived in 1789, and of the resolution of the 10th of September 1790, for Effecting a reduction in the Establishment of Monthly Writers. On the



Para. 6. Mr. F. Jacobi permitted to return as a Silversmith.

Para. 7. Names of Free Mariners.

Para. 8. Fourteen Writers to be appointed to Bengal this Season.

Answer to the General Letter dated the 11th\* of April 1792. Per Busbridge

8. (Para. 1.) Mr. Thomas Palmer appointed a Writer of the Season of 1789 to Rank next below Mr. L. Imhoff and immediately before Mr. A. H. Vansittart.

Para. 1. Mr. Palmer has been placed upon the list of your Servants accordingly.

9. (Para. 2.) The Honble. Herbert Windsor Stuart appointed a Writer of last Season. His Covenants to be executed.

Para. 2. Your Order will be duly attended to on Mr. Stuart's Arrival at this Presidency.

10. (Para. 3.) Names of Writers appointed for the Season. Their ranks will be advised by a future opportunity.

Para. 3, 4. Do not require any Answer.

(Para. 4.) Mr. S. Ewart permitted to return with his rank.

11. (Para. 5.) Direct that we transmit Mr. R. Burrows Volume of Geographical and Astronomical Observations, mentioned in the letter Per William Pitt, but omitted to be sent; also a Copy of his Journal to Chedubah if not in the abovementioned Volume.

Para. 5. The Volume noticed in the first part of this paragraph was transmitted to your Honble. Court by the Queen. We had no separate Journal from him of his Voyage to Cheduba, and believe that all he wrote upon the subject was included in the Volume abovementioned.

\*10th as given in the original is a copyist's mistake.

19. (Para. 11.) Forward the Portrait of his Majesty to be presented in the name of the Honble. Company, to the representative of Coja Cacheek Arakeel, as a testimony of their sense of the Armenians's Attachment to the English Sovereign.

Para. 11. The Governor General presented the Portrait of his Majesty to Moses Cacheek, the Eldest Son of the late Cojah Cacheek, and we have the honour to send, as Number in the Packet, a Copy of an address transmitted to us by Moses Cacheek on that occasion.

20. (Para. 12.) Respecting a Claim on the Estate of the late Mr. Richardson. Demanded the balance due from Sir William Dunkin, his Executor, but received no reply as that Gentleman was then about to proceed to Bengal. Direct us to claim the Amount due from Mr. Richardson's Estate; and, if payment be refused, to institute a Suit at Law, or in Equity Return the Original Vouchers.

Para. 12. The Demand, herein mentioned, has been made on Sir William Dunkin, the Executor of Mr. Richardson's Will; and we imagine that we shall be able to address you further on the subject in our next Dispatches.

21. (Para. 13.) Have called upon Mr. Goodwin for the balance due from him for Chunam delivered; and forwarded a Copy of his reply for our observation. Direct that a further Enquiry be made into the business, and the result transmitted to you.

Para. 13. Our Secretary has been Ordered to report upon this balance and we shall hereafter acquaint you with the Result of the Inquiries made on the Subject.

22. (Para. 14.) Names of free Mariners.

Para. 14 Requires no Answer.

Answer to the General letter dated the 30th of May 1792 and Received Per Earl of Talbot

23. (Para. 1.) Reasons which have induced you to direct the Company's

Para. 1. Does not require any Answer.

Arrival of the Writers of the past and present Seasons, a further reduction may be effected, to advise of the decrease from time to time

- 16 (Para 7) Concur in the Sentiments expressed in our Minute upon the Revenue Proceedings of the 1st of April 1791, that it is by no means advisable that Men not in the Service should be employed in Stations of Trust and Importance Are pleased therefore to find that all such Stations in the public Offices are held by Covenanted Servants, the Duty of the European Monthly Writers extending to little more than transcribing Papers Further directions and observations of employing the Junior Servants

17. (Para 8) Approve of our having deviated from your Orders in appointing Several persons to be second Assistants under the Collectors

(Para 9) Names of Writers of 1789 proceeding to their duty

- 18 (Para 10) Messrs Charles Anguish and John Brereton Birch have had Leave to proceed to Bengal as Free Merchants Transmit Mr Birch's Covenants to be returned when executed

Para 7 The Writers in your Service are generally appointed to Office at the Presidency on their first Arrival, but we are free to own that a Residence out of Calcutta is, in general, so much more beneficial, in many respects to Gentlemen of the Age of those who visit India as Writers and so much more likely to introduce or strengthen Habits that will in Time make them useful Servants of the Company that we have been induced with this view to exercise a Discretion by placing them in Situations in the Country, and we are very well persuaded that our Reasons for so doing will not be disapproved by your Honourable Court

- Para 8 9 Do not require any Answer

Para 10 Requires no observation except that the Covenants which are mentioned will be executed of course on the Arrival of Mr. Birch, and afterwards transmitted to England

of new Spanish Dollars 2,275 exceeding the Amount of his proper Agreement, and stated to be on account of Interest charged according to that Engagement, by which he bound himself to pay the Money into the Canton Treasury in Two Months after the Arrival of the ship, on which the Cotton was sent from the Malabar Coast.

28. You will observe that Mr. Fairlie, referring in his Letter to his Original proposal dated the 21st of October 1791, denies that it by any means authorized a Claim of Interest, altho' from some mistake, in drawing out the Agreement, and a neglect on his part in overlooking such a clause, it might have been subscribed to against his Intention. He also observed that it was not Customary to allow Interest on such remittances.

29. The Clause in question was inserted plainly by Mistake, and, Cons. 17 Octr. when we cancelled the Agreement, we could not hesitate in reimbursing Mr. Fairlie the Amount overpaid at Canton.

#### Fort St. George and Subordinates

30. We advised you in our Dispatches by the Ganges, that we had Agreed with Mr. William Fairlie for the whole of the supply of Rice, to the extent of 20,000 bags, which we had undertaken to send to the Madras Government previous to the Change of the Monsoon.

31. He consented to be answerable for all Wastage exceeding 3 per cent in the delivery of the Rice; and we thought it reasonable to comply with a Request he made, that it should be Cons. 1 Sept. weighed as landed, and should not be allowed to remain one night on the beach; and Instructions were sent accordingly to the Governor in Council at Fort St. George.

32. The Expectation, which we signified to your Hon'ble Court in our dispatches by the Ganges, of having it soon in our power to remove entirely the restrictions imposed on the Cons. 29 Oct. Exportation of Grain, have been happily realized, by the most favourable appearances of a plentiful harvest throughout the Country and we have the Pleasure to acquaint you that the Embargo was consequently taken off on the 29th of October.

33. The Quantity of Rice remaining to be sent to Madras, according to the requisition of that Government, received in July, being 30,000 bags, it became necessary to provide Cons. 17 Augt. it; and We advertized for proposals of Contract to supply and deliver it. A Copy of this Advertizement will be sent a No. in the Packet.

Servants at St. Helena to desist from making any further indents upon this Presidency for Grain.

24. (Para 2.) Transmit by the Talbot sixty sets of Lieutenant Hamilton's translation of a Commentary on the Mussulmun Laws. Two boxes for Fort St. George, and one for Bombay, containing Copies of that work, are sent by the same Ship to be forwarded by the first Opportunity.
- Para. 2. The boxes herein mentioned have been received, and those for Madras and Bombay will be sent to the Presidencies by the first Opportunities that Offer.
25. (Para 3.) Mr. T. Evans permitted to return to Bengal with his Rank.
- Para. 3, 4, 5. Do not require any Answer.
- Para. 4. The Honble. Andrew Ramsay appointed a Writer, to Complete the Number agreed to be sent to Bengal last Season.
- Para 5. Mr. James Thomas Grant appointed a Writer of this Season.
26. (Para. 6.) Transmit Covenants to be executed by Mr. Robert Cunynghame a Writer of this Season.
- Para. 6. Mr. Cunynghame's Covenants are now returned, having been executed by that Gentlemen.

#### Canton

27. Our Proceedings, of the date annexed, contain a Letter from the Select Committee of your Supracargoes in China, advising us of a payment made into their Treasury of Sixty thousand New Dollars, on Account of an Engagement entered into by Mr. William Fairlie, in October 1791, for the Supply of that Amount from the proceeds of 5,000 Peculs of Cotton exported by Mr. Fairlie from Bombay. In the same Consultation a Letter is also recorded from Mr. Fairlie, Enclosing a Certificate for the receipt

beyond the period necessary for the delivery of their Cargoes; and, in two Cases, the Claim has been allowed to be reasonable and admitted, the delay not being imputable to the Commanders of the Ships; but, in the third Instance, the Claim advanced not being accompanied by any voucher or Certificate, we shall not decide upon it without fuller information from Ganjam.

39. We beg leave to refer you for any further details that are connected with the Shipping of Rice to the Northern Circars, or Fort St. George, to our proceedings, which are particularly referred to under Dates annexed.

Cons. 6 Augt.  
13 Augt.  
14 Augt.  
7 Sept.  
17 Sept.  
19 Sept.

40. We have the satisfaction to inform you that Mr. George Tyler has now liquidated his Bond, dated 17th of December 1789 for the payment of One Lac and Ten thousand Pagodas into your Treasury at Fort St. George. The Engagement has been therefore cancelled.

12 Octr.  
17 Octr.  
29 Octr.

Cons. 3 Octr.

41. For the reasons stated in the 76th Paragraph of our address, by the Ganges, we signified our desire to the Government of Madras, on the 10th of September, that they would issue an advertisement for proposals of Contract to deliver at this Presidency, on or before the 1st of August 1793, three Lacks of Maunds of Coast Salt; and, on the 28th of the same Month, we increased the Quantity to four Lacks.

Cons. 17 Sept.

42. The answer of the Governor in Council, which has been lately received acquainted us that the Advertisement has been published, and that an offer of Messrs. Roebuck and Abbott for the full quantity, at the rate of 77 Arcot Rupees per hundred Maunds, being the most favourable of the Proposals that had been made, was in consequence, accepted. A Copy of the Proposals delivered upon this Occasion by Messrs. Roebuck and Abbott will be sent a No. in the Packet.

### Bombay

43. We advised your Hon'ble. Court, in our Dispatches by the Ganges, of the necessity to which we had been subjected by the Circumstances that attended the Prosecution, in the Mayor's Court at Bombay, against Mr. Adamson, for misappropriating a Quantity of Rice that ought to have been delivered to the order of that Government upon Mr. Mairs Contracts, of desiring them, after a Decree had been passed, in Mr. Adamson's Favor, to recommence Proceedings, and bring the matter before the Court of Appeals.

34 The proposals having been laid before us, and a comparative Statement of them prepared, Mr. Fairlie's Terms were found to be the lowest, besides being supported by the best possible Security; and we accepted them. Copies of the Statement, and of Mr. Fairlie's Letter, will be sent to you in this Dispatch.

35. The Supplies of Rice Shipped on Account of the Company, as well as by Individuals for the Northern Circars under the limited permission, which we noticed in our last letter have been attended by the best Consequences, and so overstocked the Market, that a great Reduction in the Price of this Necessary Article of Provision has ensued. In a Letter, which we received on the 6th Instant, from the Governor in Council at Fort St. George, we are told that, by these Supplies, the distresses of the Inhabitants of the Northern Circars have been essentially relieved, and thousands of lives, which must otherwise have sunk under the Pressure of famine, have by this seasonable interposition, been happily preserved.

36. In our Proceedings, of the 17th of October, a Letter is recorded from the Resident at Ganjam, announcing the Arrival at  
 Cons. 17 Octr. Monsourcottah of the General Goddard, Valentine, and Ponsborne. The letter is deserving of your perusal, as it bears testimony to the zealous Conduct of Captains Wakefield, McMillan and Thomas the Commanders of the three Ships, under circumstances of great Disadvantage in landing the Supplies of Grain confided to their care. These Ships having completed the Object of their destination are again returned to Bengal; and we have just received advice that the Melville Castle which was dispatched to Masulipatam, and has also delivered her Cargo, is arrived in the Roads.

37. By a reference to our Consultations of the annexed date, your Hon'ble. Court will observe by what motives we were induced  
 Cons. 24 Augt. to forward upon the ships proceeding to the relief of the Northern Circars, a supply of Seed Paddy produced in the district of Nuddea; and it was with concern we found, by the letter from the Resident at Ganjam, that, on Account of the lateness of its arrival, only a part of this Paddy could be applied to the purposes of Husbandry.

38. In some instances applications have been made to us by freighters of Rice, on the Company's Account, in Country Ships or  
 Cons. 7 Sept. vessels, to the Northern Circars, for Demurrage, or  
 14 Octr. some Compensation to be made to them for the  
 9 Novr. detention of their Ships, at their consigned ports.

Quantities Contracted for, and those delivered, and stating the Claim which the Company had on the Contractor for the deficiency and breach of Contract. This Account and Statement have been prepared, and will be again before us on the Return of the Contractor, who is expected to be soon in Calcutta.

49. By our next Dispatches, we shall have the Honour to transmit to you a Copy of our Answer to the Deputy Governor and Council at Fort Marlbro's Letter of the 9th of August; and it is therefore unnecessary to enter more fully into the Subject of it at present.

50. In consequence of the application made to us by the Presidency at Fort Marlbro' in their Letter of the 24th March we directed the Hospital Board, on the 24th of August, to

Cons. 24 Augt. nominate to us two Capable Assistant Surgeons to do duty at that place. They have accordingly recommended Mr.

Cons. 17 Octr. Charles Campbell and Mr. J. Powell, who have been appointed in consequence, and directed to proceed to Bencoolen by the earliest opportunity that offers.

51. We noticed, in our last advises, the steps which had been taken by us, on the return of Lord Cornwallis from the Coast, respecting an application made to his Lordship by Mr. Mannington, under the appointment of your Hon'ble, Court to provide an Investment of Coast Goods to be disposed of on the Island of Sumatra.

52. Mr. Mannington addressed a Letter to Lord Cornwallis on the 11th of November, to mention that the Close  
Cons. 30 Novr. of the year was now approaching, and that it would be necessary that 12th Months should be allowed to provide a Stock of Goods proper for the yearly Consumption of the whole West Coast, and that twelve Months' Notice should also be given to the Gentlemen there to dispose of their Stock on hand. Other Representations made in this Letter related to Mr. Mannington's Personal situation, with which he appeared to be by no means satisfied; and he seemed to think it a particular hardship that he should be restricted from private Trade within the Company's Limits in India.

53. Being ourselves convinced, upon due Consideration of the Subject, that the employment of an Agent at Madras to purchase Goods for the purpose of carrying on a private trade, on the Company's Account on the Island of Sumatra, could never, in any degree, promote the real and enlarged Interests of the Company, we determined no longer to continue an Appointment, understood to originate from a recommendation of this Government, but to which we had solid objections, founded as much on the Impropriety of the Company's



44. This was done accordingly, and the Decree of the Mayor's Court was reversed. Mr. Adamson thus becoming liable, as we imagine, for the Proceeds of 23,000 Bags of Rice  
 Cons. 13 Octr. Shipped by Mr. Mair on account of his two Contracts, and for all Costs of Suit.

45. Messrs. Perreau and Palling, the Acting Securities upon the larger of the two Contracts, conceiving that the Spirit of this decision, passed in Appeal, would equally apply to another  
 Cons. 17 Octr. circumstance, connected with the engagement for which they were bound, in the Case of the Cargoes of the two Ships Asia and Myrtle Consigned to Mr. Adamson by Mr. Mair, on the same account, and after having been tendered to the Bombay Government were rejected by them as inferior to the proper Muster, under a Defect of Information at the Moment of Mr. Mair's failure they addressed us on the subject. The two Cargoes amounted to 10,900 Bags, and Messrs. Perreau and Palling contended that the Consignee should be responsible for the proceeds of these Cargoes, upon the Principle that all the Rice shipped by Mr. Mair, on account of his  
 Cons. 9 Novr. Contracts, became the property of the Company, from the time of his furnishing the Bills of lading to entitle him to an Advance. But your Advocate General, who was called upon for his opinion on the Case, did not by any means encourage a prosecution against Mr. Adamson on this account.

46. The decision on the Misappropriated Cargoes consigned to Mr. Adamson by Mr. Mair being passed, we shall proceed, as soon as possible, to a final adjustment of the Accounts with the Securities; and we shall communicate the result to your Hon'ble. Court by a future opportunity.

#### Fort Marlbro'

47. In our separate Proceedings, relative to Fort Marlbro', on the 26th of September, a Letter which we received from that Presidency, soon after the departure of the Ganges is recorded, transmitting a Copy of their Dispatches to your Hon'ble. Court. which seem to contain a particular detail of their Proceedings in the past year. There was also a Register of Certificates, drawn on this Government, since the 13th September 1791, and these have been duly honoured.

48. You will observe that a Complaint is made, in this Letter, of deficient deliveries of the Timbers Contracted for in Bengal last Season, to be delivered at Fort Marlbro'; and we directed our Secretary to prepare an Account, shewing the differences between the

58. Capain Kyd will take under his Charge to the Andamans a Number of Trees and Plants, which are likely, in the Opinion of the Superintendant of the Botanical Garden, to be of future Utility to the Settlers, and the Natives of Island.

#### Prince of Wales Island

59. We have had before us Copies of several Letters, which have been addressed to Captain Light, by Commanders of Ships, relative to the Southern Channel near Prince of Wales Island, Cons. 22 Octr. and We have the honor to send Copies of them for your information, a number in the Packet, assuring ourselves that they will appear to you, as they do to us, to bear very creditable Testimony to the Utility of Mr. Popham's Services in exploring that Channel, and bringing it into practicable use.

60. We have sent the usual quantity of 250 Chests of Opium to Prince of Wales Island, in the Ship Stag for the purpose of defraying the expences of the Settlement. By referring to the Cons. 9 Novr. Advices from Captain Light, under date the 26th of September, recorded on the Proceedings of the date annexed, you will observe that he was under some embarrassment, in consequence of an Embassy which had been sent by the King of Siam for the purpose of demanding Aid from the Settlement of Prince of Wales Island, in his projected conquest of the Kingdom of Ava the ensuing fair Season, by means of two Vessels to be furnished, with their Arms and Crews, to assist in conveying Rice for the use of the Siamese Army in the intended expedition.

61. Captain Light very properly declined a Compliance with the application; but he thought himself under the necessity of softening his refusal by allowing private Merchants to freight their Vessels for the transport of Rice, if the Agent of the King of Siam could prevail on them to do so; and by making a present to the Ambassador for the use of his Master of a small quantity of Iron and Nails.

62. A Copy of a Letter from Captain Light, dated the 12th November, and received in the latest Dispatches from Prince of Wales Island, attends you a Number in the Packet, We have not thought proper to comply with Captain Light's Application, repeated in this Letter, for an addition of 200 Chests of Opium to the Allotment of 250 Chests annually sent to Prince of Wales Island.

entering into a little Commerce of internal detail as on the Insignificance of the value of such trade to their pecuniary Interests; and we also thought that the expence of Mr. Mannington's Office, Altho' it was not very considerable, became of itself of some importance, as no return of solid Benefit was to be expected from it.

54. In adopting this Resolution however we were clearly of opinion that Mr. Mannington's Case, as an Individual, deserved some

Consideration, no blame being imputable to him for  
 Cons. 30 Novr. the disappointment of your Views; and, as we deemed it probable that, all his appointments being annulled, he would chose to return to Europe with his family, we resolved to furnish him with the means of effecting such purpose, and have consequently instructed the Government of Fort St. George to acquaint him that he would be allowed the Sum of two thousand Pounds to defray the expence of his Passage, and any incidental Charges upon his quitting that Presidency.

55. Mr. Mannington's Salary of 150 Pagodas, per Mensem, will also be continued to him, by our direction, until the departure of the last Ship of the Season for Europe from Madras.

#### Andamans

56. In consequence of the Resolution communicated to you in the 13th Paragraph of our last advices from this Department, to remove, at the recommendation of Commodore

Cons. 5th Novr. Cornwallis, the Settlement at the Andamans from the spot, where it was first established, to the North East part of the Island, the necessary preparations were made for carrying this measure into effect at the proper Season; and they were in great forwardness on the 5th of November, when the Governor General laid before the Board a Minute on the Subject, which attends you a Number in the Packet.

57. We entertain no doubt that your Hon'ble. Court will fully approve of the Extra allowance which, on the Proposition of the Governor General, has been granted to Lieutenant Blair, and of the footing on which Captain Kyd, of the Corps of Engineers, has been placed as temporary Commandant and Superintendant of the Works to be erected on the Island. A Copy of our Instructions to Lieutenant Blair on the 12th of November and of our Letter to the Commodore of the same date, in which we accept the offer his Excellency was pleased to make us of the Assistance of such part of his Majesty's Squadron as could be spared to effect the removal of the Settlement, will communicate to you particular information on the subject and it would be Superfluous to repeat it in this place.

69. Since the beginning of October the Mint and Assay Masters have delivered in to the Board a daily return of work done at their respective Offices, a measure of obvious utility; and we have the pleasure to find that the Duties of both since Mr. Harris and Mr. Miller have taken complete charge of their respective Departments have been conducted with much greater Dispatch.

70. On the Proceedings of the date annexed, a Copy of a Letter is recorded from the Mint Committee, enclosing a Table of rates of Batta on the various Species of Rupees, circulating throughout the Countries, compared with the Standard Sicca. This table and the Regulations for the Mint and Coinage, which formed a part of our dispatch by the Ganges, were published, by our Orders, with Translations in the Country languages, in the Calcutta Gazette of the 1st November and Copies of the translations have been sent to the several Collectors, and Commercial Residents, for the general Information of the Natives.

71. Our Consultation of the 5th of November contains a Letter from the Mint Committee, recommending that the Specimens of Bullion, required for the purpose of making the Assay, should be Selected by the Assay Master, in Concert with the Mint Master, and likewise in presence of the Proprietor, should he wish to be at the Selection. The Correspondence between the Mint and Assay Masters and the Committee, which gave occasion to this recommendation, will be found in the same Proceedings.

72. The above recommendation was complied with by us, as well as a Second, contained in the same Letter, that any difference, that might, in future, arise between the estimated amount of the Bullion by Assay and the actual produce should be carried to the Account of Government.

73. Towards the End of October the Operations of the Mint had become so much more expeditious that we were enabled to revoke the permission granted on the 31st of August, to Individuals delivering Bullion at the Mint, to exchange Mint Certificates for 8 Per Cent Promissory Notes, instead of waiting to receive in Coin, the produce of their bullion. This indulgence ceased from the 17th of November.

74. The fluctuating value of the Circulating Gold Coin in Calcutta has been an Inconvenience of long continuance, and has hitherto withstood all attempts, which have been made by Government, to apply an effectual remedy to it.

## Mint and Coinage

63. We addressed your Hon'ble. Court very fully, in our dispatches  
 Cons. 7 Sept. by the Ganges, on the subject of the new System  
 17 Sept. we had found it necessary to adopt for the Conduct  
 19 Sept. of the Mint, and informed you of the establishment  
 24 Sept. of a Committee, under whose immediate Comptrol  
 3 Oct. we had placed its Operations. We shall now pro-  
 8 Oct. ceed to notice such particulars, connected with this  
 17 Oct. subject, as are of more leading importance, and  
 26 Oct. refer your Hon'ble. Court to our Proceedings,  
 5 Novr. noticed in the Margin, for details of a less interesting nature.  
 16 Novr.  
 23 Novr.  
 30 Novr.

64. The separation of the Departments of Mint and Assay Master (as noticed in our last Advices) by which the Offices were constituted to be independent of each other, having made it necessary to define their respective Duties we came to certain Resolutions on the Subject on the 7th of September, and we shall lay them before you, in the enclosed Copy, which goes a Number in the Packet.

65. The transfer of an Office so circumstanced as that of the Mint attended with a separation of powers before united in the same person, was necessarily a work of some difficulty, and we were desirous of reconciling, as far as we could the Removal of delays and Impediments in a business of so much moment to the public as the Conversion of bullion into Coin, and the necessary object of fixing clearly the period when the undivided responsibility should be fully and completely transferred.

66. On this principle our Resolutions, of the 7th of September, were framed; and by these Mr. Miller, the new Mint Master, was directed to take charge of all Bullion that might be  
 Cons. 7 Sept. tendered at the Mint after that date, and Mr. Harris was enjoined to convert, with all possible dispatch the Bullion, then under process into Coin, upon effecting which he was to close his Accounts, and deliver over Charge of the Mint to his Successor.

67. The delays in the Coinage, however, which had originally convinced us of the necessity for a Change of System, stemming to be  
 Cons. 19 Sept. rather increased than diminished by the appearance of a divided authority, we resolved, on the 19th of September, that complete Charge of the Mint should be immediately given over to Mr. Miller, with all the Bullion, in whatever State, whether assayed or unassayed, specifying only what was the property of Government, and what of Individuals.

68. An Extract from our Proceedings on this occasion attends you a Number in the Packet.

Debt. The Sum last stated may therefore fairly be deducted from the amount of the Debt upon the Register, which would thereby be reduced to CRs. 2,97,190. 6. 4. A Comparison between this Amount, and that of the General Register Debt on the 30th of June 1792, Vizt. CRs. 2,69,78,424. 4. 8. will shew that the increase of that Debt, during the discharge of the 12 Per Cent Loans, which then amounted to CRs. 91,23,578. 9. 7., exclusive of Interest, was actually no more than 28,18,765. 15. 8. of this Sum CRs. 24,72,277. 8. 1. has been brought upon the Register, and negotiated at Par, and appropriated to the discharge of the 12 Per Cent Loans.

80. A Comparative Statement, which is now forming by the Accountant General, and will be transmitted to England by the present Dispatch, will exhibit an actual Diminution in the Amount of the Simple Contract Debt of this Government between the 30th of June and 30th of November 1792, of upward of 60 Lacs of Rupees.

81. On the 7th Instant we take into Consideration the State of your Remittance.

82. We observed that, as the discount of your Paper Gradually fell, the Subscription to your Remittance decreased in nearly the same proportion; and that, since the discount had disappeared altogether, Scarce any Subscriptions had been made, the whole Amount Subscribed at the three Presidencies, since April last, being no more than about 5½ Lacs of Sicca Rupees, and as moreover, there was little doubt, from the increasing state of your credit at each Presidency that your 8 Per Cent Paper would soon bear a Premium, we were apprehensive lest the Subscriptions to your Remittance should entirely cease.

83. Influenced by the above Consideration and adverting also to the great advantages you derive from your Debts being transferred from the Indian to the English Rate of Interest, more especially whilst the latter shall continue at its present low rate, we were decidedly of opinion that the Rate of your Exchange should be increased, and altho' in order to secure to you the above mentioned *Advantages in their fullest extent, it would have been necessary to raise your Exchange to 2s/1d Per Current Rupee, or even still higher,* considering on how much more favorable terms Individuals can remit their Property through other Channels, yet being aware that the Circumstances which rendered such Remittances so very advantageous, at this particular time, are of a fluctuating nature, and being also sensible that the greatest circumspection was necessary to be observed in a Matter wherein your Interests were so materially concerned, for these considerations deem it advisable to increase the Exchange for the present beyond 2 Shilling Per Current Rupee.

This Subject so interesting to the Public in Calcutta, where the proportion of Gold to Silver is beyond Comparison the most considerable, claimed our attention at our meeting of the 23rd of November. A Copy of the Minute and Resolutions which we entered on our Proceedings of that day, upon the Subject, makes a Number in the present dispatch.

75. It is with great satisfaction that we inform your Hon'ble Court that the Provincial Mints at Dacca, Patna, and Moorshedabad are now in Employ. The Superintendant of the Mint at the last mentioned City has lately reported that he has completed the necessary arrangements, and opened the Mint.

76. At the recommendation of the Mint Committee, we directed, on the 6th Instant, that the Collectors of the Districts of Rajeshahy, Dinagapore, Purnea, and Bheerboorn should be instructed to remit all Rupees, excepting Siccas, to the Collector of Moorshedabad, who is to send them to the Assay Master for Coinage, together with all Rupees (Siccas excepted) that may be tendered at his Treasury.

77. We forward to you, at the request of the Mint Committee, a List of Articles required from Europe for the use of the Mint; and we beg leave to recommend that these may be transmitted to Bengal by the earliest opportunity that offers after your receipt of the present Dispatch.

#### Government Loans and Securities, Company's Remittance, & c.

78. We have already informed you of the Measures which had been taken for the discharge of the 12 Per Cent Loans, and we have now to advise you that the last payment of these was advertized to be made on the 16th of November. You will likewise find that, on the 19th of that Months, CRs. 7,90,257. 11.9 of the 8 Per Cent priority of date paper, was also ordered for payment; and that the Several Sums of this paper, already Ordered to be discharged since the 15th of November, including that Advertized for payment on the 18th of this Month, Amount to CRs. 55,83,415. 9. 2.

79. You will observe, however, that the Sum of the Register Debts has been considerably increased. But on this we have to remark that of CRs. 3,16,14,091. 10. 5, the Amount of the Register Debt on the 30th of November 1792, CRs. 18,16,901. 6. 1. was incurred for the discharge of the Certificates issued for Bullion delivered at the Mint for so much of the Debt, there being Assets of an equal Amount, which when converted into Coin, as will now speedily be the case, fall to be applied in diminution [of] the Register

the Native Inhabitants; and we shall take the earliest opportunity of communicating to you the Result.

90. *The Prison, belonging to the Town Guard, having been pulled down, the Superintendent of the Police informed us, on the 20th Ultimo, that he had succeeded in his endeavour to procure a House proper for the purpose in the Neighbourhood of the Town Guard, and that the Rent demanded by the Proprietor was 60 Rupees Per Mensem. We authorized the Superintendent to Engage it for the above purpose.*

91. *In consequence of a Complaint, supported by a representation made by a Native against a Frenchman of the name of Jerron or Zerron, of his having Robbed Several Merchants of a Number of Pieces of Cloth, under the pretence of purchasing them, we made application to Mr. Bie, the Chief at Serrampore, for his being delivered up to take his trial at the ensuing Sessions. That Gentleman had already apprehended the accused party, and, with great readiness, complied with the requisition which was made to him.*

92. *Our Proceedings of the 10th of October contain a Letter from the Register of the Nizamut Adawlut, representing that John O Rielly, John Barton and Thomas Blythe had been lately sent to the Presidency from Chittagong to take their trial before the Supreme Court on a Charge of a Violent Assault and Battery, committed by them at that place, and John O Rielly, supposed to be the principal, having afterwards died, the Court of Nizamut Adawlut were of opinion that the Evidence against the Surviving Prisoners was not sufficiently strong to render any further process against them necessary.*

93. *These Men, however, having been concerned in an unlawful Act, the Court conceived them to be improper Persons to be permitted to remain longer in the Country, and accordingly recommended to the Governor General in Council that he would be pleased to send them to England by the first opportunity that might offer. An Order was consequently passed to this Effect on the 17th of October, and the Survivors will be sent to England by an Early opportunity.*

#### Members of Government, and Company's Servants

94. *We are concerned to advise your Hon'ble Court that we are soon to lose the Assistance of Mr. Stuart at our Councils, it being his Intention, as announced to us in a Letter from Boglepore, dated the 20th of October, to take his passage for Europe on an early Ship of the present Season.*



84. Finding that the Measures, which we adopted on the 18th of April last, for removing the impediment to the Currency of the 6 Per Cent Certificates, and for restoring them to their due value, had not operated so effectually as could have been wished, we were induced to take into consideration the hardships which the Holders of the Certificates must have suffered from their having remained undischarged so much longer than there was any reason to expect at the time they were issued; and to resolve, in consequence, that the 6 Per Cent Certificates, should be received in Subscriptions to the Remittance at the same Rate as those bearing an Interest of 8 Per Cent.

85. Having fixed the Rate for the Current Rupee, our attention was next directed to the Increase that it would be necessary to make in the Exchange of the Bombay Rupee, the Madras Pagoda, and the Bencoolen Dollar.

86. Had the existing Rate of Exchange for the Bombay Rupee been increased proportionably with the Increase in the Rate of the Current Rupee, it would have been raised from 2s/2d to 2s/3d 3/23d; but as the holders of Paper issued by the Bombay Government, by first Exchanging it for Bengal Bonds on the terms Advertized on the 16th of April 1789, and by afterwards Subscribing such Bonds at the Bengal Treasury, were enabled to obtain an Exchange of 2s/2d 1/2 7/10 it became necessary to Calculate the proportionate Increase upon the latter of these Rates, instead of the former; and the Rate for the Bombay Rupee was accordingly fixed at 2s/4d.

87. In proportioning the Increase in the Madras Pagoda, and the Bencoolen Dollar, the same Circumstances did not occur; and therefore the Rate of the Pagoda was fixed at 8 Shillings, and that of the Dollar at 5 Shillings.

### Police

88. Your Hon'ble Court will find, recorded on our Proceedings of the date annexed, a Petition from certain of the Native Inhabitants of Calcutta against the House Tax, which is levied in this City, and has long been a Subject of their Complaints. We resumed the Consideration of this Petition on the 28th of September and passed the Resolutions, of which a Copy will be sent a Number in this Dispatch.

89. Whenever a Report on the Subject, from the Commissioners of Police, shall be laid before us, we shall adopt a final determination, as to the Measure of relief, which it will be proper to extend to

101. We have given Permission to Mr. Dandridge to proceed to the Cape of Good Hope for the recovery of his Health, and he has been further allowed to resign the Service and proceed to England in Case the latter should be thought adviseable. We have deemed it proper, however, to direct, that he shall be restricted from drawing any Allowances after his Embarkation; but to this Order an Exception is so far admitted that, in the case of his Death upon the passage between Bengal and the Cape, his allowances will be continued to such Period upon Certificate from the Commander of the Ship of the date of the Casualty, or, if he should not proceed from the Cape to Europe, Six Months being Allowed for his Stay at the former, his Allowances will be drawn on his return to this Presidency. If however, after a Residence of the time we have mentioned at the Cape, he should not have recovered his Health, and should find it necessary to proceed to Europe, he will be entitled to his Allowances to the above Period upon Certificate of his Residence at the Cape from some Public Officer of the Dutch Government. We have at the same Time resolved that this shall be considered as a Standing Regulation with respect to all Civil Servants desiring to proceed upon Leave, in the Case of ill Health, to the Cape of Good Hope, and eventually to England.

#### Stationery

102. *Musters of the damaged Stationary Imported this Season, and condemned on Survey, since the last Dispatch, are forwarded by the present Conveyance.* We also transmit Copy  
 Cons. 26 Octr. of a Letter from Mr. Dickson and of his Report Survey of the Stationary Imported by the Rose a Number in the Packet.

103. We transmit Numbers in the Packet a Copy and Report from Mr. Bruere, who ultimately surveyed some of the condemned Stationary that arrived by the Ships of the last year, requesting your attention to the Observations he has made upon it. We shall take care that the Godown, in which a great part of the Stationary is kept, shall be rendered perfectly dry, and fit to preserve it, or that it shall be moved to some other place.

95. Mr. Stuart's public address to you makes a Number in this Dispatch, and we are so fully persuaded of your disposition to pay due attention to the Circumstances of that Gentleman's Situation, during the Absence of the Governor General on the public Service, that we shall not further enlarge upon the Subject, than to express our perfect conviction that Mr. Stuart possesses the strongest Claims to the Indulgence he solicits.

96. We beg leave to forward, Numbers in the Packet, a Copy of a Letter addressed to the Governor General by Mr. Edward Cuthbert Fenwick, and a Copy of the Answer written to it, in consequence of our Orders, by the Secretary to the Government. We shall lay no stress upon the Subject of this Correspondence; and leave it, by observing that Mr. Fenwick was removed from Office for an unwarrantable use of the public Money committed to his charge.

97. Upon the Arrival of the Writers of the present Season, we talked on the Board of Trade for their Opinion whether the business of any Commercial Factories, to which there were  
*Cons. 24 Sept.* not Company's Servants attached as Assistants, would not be forwarded by the appointment of some of your Junior Servants to be employed at those places, and at which of the Residencies they thought their Services might be useful.

98. The Answer of the Board of Trade is recorded on the 3rd October. They expressed their opinion that, as several Public Considerations, including the present state of the In-  
*Cons. 3 Oct.* vestment, were likely to produce a progressive Increase of it, the Services of Assistants would be very useful at Residencies where at present none were stationed, and that, if a number of young men should be trained in the Management of the Company's Commercial business in the interior parts of the Country, very good effect might, they conceived, be produced therefrom.

99. In consequence of the Board of Trade's opinion, delivered as above, we have appointed some of the Writers to Commercial Stations; and we trust that this measure will be productive of the Benefits which are expected by ourselves and the Board of Trade to arise from it.

100. Mr. George Dandridge, a Senior Merchant in your Service, applied to us on the 20th Ultimo, for permission to proceed to the  
*Cons. 23 Novr* Cape of Good Hope for the Recovery of his Health, in the Course of the present Season, and, eventually, to Europe, in case the Voyage to the Cape should not have produced the desired good effect.

110. You will receive by this Dispatch a Memoir sent in by Lieutenant Colonel Kyd on the present state of the Andaman Islands, and a Continuation of his Remarks on the Soil and Cultivation of the Western side of the Hougly River.

111. He has likewise forwarded for transmission by this Ship two small Boxes containing specimens of Indigo and Annotta, and a Package of Seeds addressed to the Care of Sir Joseph Banks for M. de Thovin at Paris.

112. A Copy of Colonel Kyd's Letter will be sent a Number in the Goddard's Packet.

113. We beg leave to recommend to your attention the enclosed Petition of Bonifacio Rodrigues, having reason to believe that the Circumstances he has set forth are true. On this Occasion we cannot but refer your Hon'ble Court to the observations, made in our address by the Dutton (Para. 54) on the subject of the Restraints by which we are tied down respecting Pensions, even of the lowest amount, and tho' the Claims of the Persons soliciting relief, may press with the greatest Weight on the Humanity and Justice of your Government.

114. We have the Satisfaction to acquaint you that it appears from the Reports of Messrs. Fleming and Dick, delivered on the 2nd and 30th Ultimo that Mr. Joseph Price, whose Melancholy state of mind was reported in our Advices by the Ganges is now recovered. This indeed was so certain that we have found ourselves at liberty from the opinion of Messrs. Fleming and Dick to instruct your Law Officers to take the necessary steps for superceding the Commission of Lunacy which had been taken out against him by order of the Supreme Court.

115. The Hospital Board having recommended the Translation of a Medical work, called the *Alfoz-ul-OEdviah*, as likely to be useful to European Surgeons in this Country, particularly in directing them in their enquiries concerning the Medicines used by the Natives, we consented to Subscribe for 100 Copies at two Gold Mohurs each on account of the Company, that Amount being reported sufficient by Mr. Gladwin, the Translator, to defray the Charges of Publication.

Cons. 2 Novr.  
Public Separate &  
Coml. Shipping  
Cons. 30 Novr.

Cons. 14 Sept.

made to them by Government of Sundry Marine Stores for the purpose of fitting out their Vessels. The Sum is considerable but being no less than CRs. 14558. 8. 8. for the reason stated in the Committee's Letter, and because we are persuaded that the Subscriber have left with them no funds to pay the Amount, we cannot help recommending their request to your favorable Consideration, and that Authority may be therefore given for cancelling their Bond.

105. We have the honor to send you as a Number in the Packet, the Copy of an Advertisement published in the Calcutta Gazette on the 4th of October respecting the Misappropriation of your Paper Securities, left by Gentlemen, not Resident in Calcutta, in the hands of their Attornies. We beg leave to refer you to the publication itself for the remedy we have thought it necessary to provide for an existing Evil of so much private as well as public consequence.

106. In our former Advices we mentioned the ruinous state of the Old Court House. The Civil Architect, on the 15th October, having reported that part of the Building had fallen in, we soon afterwards came to a Resolution to direct that the whole should be razed to the Ground. This order is nearly obeyed.

107. Our final determination respecting the purchase, further hire, or total Relinquishment, of the building at present occupied as a Court House, depends, in the first instance, on the result of a Report which is expected from our Civil Architect, and Lieutenant Wyatt of the Corps of Engineers, to whom we have referred the Survey of the premisses, the Estimate of their value if [they] should be bought by the Company, and the equitable rate of hire if engaged for a term of years. This point will engage our early attention; and we shall communicate our determination upon it to your Hon'ble Court in our next Dispatches.

108. Lord Cornwallis received on the 17th of October, a Letter from Governor Phillips, at New South Wales, brought by the Pitt Storeship, which after landing her Cargo consigned to that place, was to have gone to Madras and Bombay on the Owners Account, but the Commander having made an offer of her to proceed first to Calcutta, at the risque and Cost of the Owners, in order to take his Chances of the Ships being hired by Messrs. Lambert and Ross and Biddulph, to carry Provisions to New South Wales, Mr. Phillips admitted of the Proposal, and the destination of the Pitt was altered accordingly.

109. This Ship having been since taken up by us, at the recommendation of the Board of Trade to Carry a Cargo of Sugar and other Articles to Europe, we shall address you more particularly on the Subject from the Commercial Department.

116. The State of our Treasury is as follows.

Ready Money			
Gold Mohurs	41,180-5	6,58,885	7,64,306-9-7
Siccas		11,14,577-6-8	12,92,909-2-8
Copper Coin	5,472	171	198-5-8
			<hr/>
			20,57,414-11-11
Bills Receivable		2,76,604-8-6	3,20,861-4-0
			<hr/>
Current Rupees			23,78,275-15-11
Unsorted Treasure			
Balance Account Deposits			1,23,606-9-5
Balance Accountant General Mayor's Court			1,04,930-3-5
Balance Old Bond Debt on which the interest has Ceased by Public Advertisement			36,102-2
Balance New Bond Debt			1,18,71,845-5-7
Balance Madras Military Arrears			25,10,087-2-10
Balance Bombay Military Arrears			20,63,589-5-11
Balance Sale of Promisory Notes @ 8 Per Cent			40,95,508-10-7
Balance Loans taken up at 12 Per Cent			3,51,778-15-4
			<hr/>
			2,11,57,448-5-3

Fort William  
the 14th December, 1792.  
[Per General Goddard.]

We have the Honor to be  
Honble Sirs,  
Your Most faithful Humble Servants  
Cornwallis/Peter Speke/Wm. Cowper

## NOTES

### LETTERS FROM COURT

No. 1— 3 September 1792

1. *Fort Marlbro'* (p. 41)—Fort Marlbro', also called Bencoolen, was the "chief establishment possessed by the British East India Company on the island of Sumatra, until it was delivered up, with all their other settlements on that island, to the Dutch, in A.D. 1825. The town and district of Bencoolen comprehend an area of about ten square miles..... The only species of cultivation that has thriven has been that of the nutmeg and clove..... This settlement was acquired in A.D. 1685, and so early as 1698 had already cost the East-India Company £200,000, and continued a most useless, unprofitable colony, until it was fortunately got rid of".—Walter Hamilton, *The East India Gazetteer*, Vol. I, p. 172.

No. 5— 8 April 1789

1. *Island of Cheduba* (p. 49)—An island off the coast of Arakan, in Kyaukpyu District, Lower Burma, with an area of 220 square miles. It is triangular in shape; its northern coast runs east and west, its eastern north and south, while its outward side, turned towards the Bay of Bengal, follows the general trend of the coast, namely, north-west and south-east. The name Cheduba is said to be a corruption of *char dhuba*, or 'four capes'. Rice and tobacco are the two main items of export of this island.—*The Imperial Gazetteer of India*, Vol. X, pp. 185-87.
2. *Mr. Gilchrist* (p. 51)—John Borthwick Gilchrist joined the East India Company's service as an Assistant Surgeon in 1783. He engaged in philological work practically throughout the entire period of his service. His *English-Hindustani Dictionary* was published in 1790, and a little later a revised edition thereof came out under the title "*Gilchrist's Hindostanee Dictionary and Grammar with his system of Hindostanee Philology*". He was well-versed in Persian and Sanskrit also, and was appointed head of the Fort William College on its foundation in 1800. He returned to England in 1804 and was, fourteen years later, appointed Professor of Hindustani to the East India Company. His death took place at Paris

a letter which would have the force of a treaty. This letter was written on 7 July 1789. It was confirmed by the Parliament and declared to have the force of a treaty. The chief points of this letter were :

- (i) definition of the forces to be supplied to the Nizam,
- (ii) a provision to the effect that if the territories referred to in the treaty of 1768 came into the hands of the British the terms of that treaty would be complied with and
- (iii) the significant omission of the name of Tipu Sultan from the list of allies against whom the forces lent to the Nizam should not be used.—Mohibbul Hasan Khan, *History of Tipu Sultan*.

## LETTERS TO COURT

### No. 1— 9 January 1789

1. **Mr. Forster** (p. 219)—George Forster was deputed in October 1787 to Nagpur with a view to ascertaining the Raja's disposition towards the Company and, if possible, to induce him to join in a confederacy against Tipu Sultan. On arrival he found the state weak and completely under the influence of Poona. So he did not perceive that any advantage would accrue by entering into a new treaty with the Raja. He was recalled in December 1788. He was deputed again in February 1790 to procure a passage through the Raja's territory for an English army which was proceeding to fight Tipu. Forster met with sudden death at Nagpur on 5 January 1791.—*Poona Residency Correspondence*, Vol. V.

### No. 4— 10 March 1789

1. **Mr. Francis Gladwin** (p. 238)—Originally a cadet in the Bengal Army he was acting as Deputy Paymaster to the 3rd Brigade in 1766 when, on the recommendation of Clive, he was appointed as a writer. He served in different capacities until his death in 1812 when he was Commissary Resident at Patna. Gladwin was encouraged by Warren Hastings in his studies in Oriental literature. He was a member of the Asiatic Society of Bengal. Besides bringing out the *History of Hindoostan* and some other works, he published translations of several Persian books.—*Fort William-India House Correspondence*, Vol. IV; Hodson, *List of the Officers of the Bengal Army*.



in 1841. The system of orthography of Indian names introduced by him was more generally used than the more orthodox system of Sir William Jones, and was followed in the Revenue Survey Department until the universal introduction of Dr. Hunter's system in 1870—Buckland, *Dictionary of Indian Biography*; Stephen and Lee, *Dictionary of National Biography*.

**No. 21—30 March 1791**

1. **Prince of Wales's Island** (p. 150)—"Penang (*Pulo Pinang*, 'Betelnut Island'), officially Prince of Wales Island, one of the British Straits Settlements, lies at the northern extremity of the Strait of Malacca, 2 to 10 miles from the west coast of the Malay Peninsula, and 360 miles NNW, of Singapore. Length, 15 miles; breadth, 5 to 10 miles; area, 107 sq. m., three-fifths being hilly.....The exports include tin, spices, sugar, and tobacco.....Georgetown, the capital, is situated at the NE. extremity, and is defended by forts.....The native raja ceded Penang to Britain in 1785 for a pension of £1000".—David Patrick (Ed.), *Chamber's Concise Gazetteer of the World*, p. 544.

**No. 29—11 April 1792**

1. **Earl Cornwallis's letter..... to the Nizam** (p. 204)—On 23 February 1768 a treaty was concluded by the East India Company with the Nawab of Carnatic and the Nizam. In this treaty Haidar Ali was declared a rebel and a usurper, and its 10th article provided that the territories held by Haidar in the Carnatic Balaghat were to be conferred on the English who would pay to the Nizam seven lakhs of Arcot rupees annually. The 11th article provided that they would also pay *chauth* to the Marathas. The clauses remained unexecuted as the English did not obtain possession of the said territories for several years. Tipu Sultan, who succeeded Haidar Ali in 1782, embarked on a career of conquest. The Nizam and the Marathas combined to check his growing power and expected the English to join them. But the English had in the meantime entered into a peace treaty with Tipu on 11 March 1784. Eventually there was peace between the rival powers. Taking advantage of the Nizam's difficulties Cornwallis pressed the Company's claim to Guntur. The Nizam handed over Guntur and requested Cornwallis for a new offensive and defensive alliance. Cornwallis stated that he had no authority to enter into such an alliance without the sanction of the British Parliament and that he would instead address to him

Anderson who was then Resident with Sindia, and succeeded him in the post on his retirement in 1785. He left Sindia's durbar in 1786 due to bad health. In collaboration with Lt. Charles Hamilton he undertook the task of translating into English the *Hidaya*, or Commentary on Mussalman Laws. The translation was published in 1791.—*Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. VII; Hodson, *op. cit.*

**No. 21—3 September 1792**

- 1 **Nutmeg** (p. 507)—The aromatic seed got from the fruit of an evergreen tree native to the Molucca Islands but widely cultivated in the East and West Indies. It was introduced by the English towards the end of the 18th century into Bencoolen and later into Malacca, Singapore and Penang. It was also cultivated with some success by Dr. Roxburgh in the Botanical Garden, Calcutta, and was later established in the Nilgiri Hills. It was cultivated to a small extent in some other parts also, and though mention is made of small amounts of nutmeg of Indian produce being exported to Europe, its cultivation in India did not prove much of a success. But the nutmeg was nothing new to the Indians. It was known at least to the later Sankrit writers as *jaiphal* (*jaiphal*) and its medicinal properties, particularly in dyspeptic complaints, well known.

2. **Captain Hamilton** (p. 238)—Charles Hamilton (wrongly designated here as Captain) was in the Bengal Army which he joined as a cadet in 1774. He became Lieutenant in 1778. He was well-versed in Persian and was a member of the Asiatic Society of Bengal. He served in the expedition against the Rohillas and wrote an account of them which was published in 1787. He translated in collaboration with Lt. James Anderson the *Hidaya*, or commentary on Mussalman Laws, from Persian and the translation was published in 1791. He was in England on furlough when he died in March 1792 before he could take up the post of Resident in Oudh, to which he had been appointed.—Hodson, *op. cit* ; Buckland, *op. cit*.

**No. 14— 16 November 1790**

1. **Bread Fruit Tree** (p. 368)— It is a tall tree yielding large round fruit which is called breadfruit because when baked it somewhat resembles bread. The fruit forms an important staple food of the South Pacific. Believed to be a native of Jave, Amboyna and the neighbouring islands, the tree is also grown in South India, Ceylon and Burma. Too much of cold is not conducive to its growth.

**No. 15— 31 January 1791**

1. **Leckee** (p. 379)—This is probably a corruption of leek, a culinary herb allied to the onion but differing from it in having the bulbous part cylindrical and the leaves flat and broad. The plant is of biennial duration, flowering the second year.
2. **Mowah** (p. 379)—Corrupt form of *Mahua*, the well-known Indian tree whose chief value lies in its bell-shaped flowers which, when dried, are eaten by the natives, and are distilled into an intoxicating drink. It is an important article of trade, and during the hot months is the chief means of subsistence to the Bhils and other hill tribes. The leaves and bark make useful embrocations"—Yule and Burnell, *Hobson-Jobson*.

**No. 20— 27 April 1792**

1. **James Anderson** (p. 482)—James Anderson joined the Bengal Army as a cadet in 1775 and became Lieutenant in 1778. Hastings appointed him his aide-de-camp in November 1781. During 1782-85 he acted as assistant to his brother David

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was accordingly instructed to explain to the Gentlemen, who had proposed the Establishment of the Society, the Restriction under which the Institution was allowed to take place.

22. A Letter from the Superintendents of the Police, which is recorded in our Proceedings of the 4th of February Consn. 4th Feby. called our attention to a Subject of some consequence, in their Department. It was represented to us that there were Number of European Foreigners in Calcutta, without present Employment, or the obvious means of Maintaining themselves honestly and that of this description eight men had been apprehended the Evening before the date of the Letter addressed to us by the Superintendents of the Police some of whom known to be of bad Character, and had been confined in Jail for various Crimes. A very short Time previous to the Receipt of this Letter many Robberies had been committed, and some Murders perpetrated, in a Quarter of the Town, hitherto less disturbed, being that which is almost entirely occupied by the European Inhabitants; and we have very good reason to believe that such daring Acts could not have been committed by any other than persons of the description abovementioned.

23. Those apprehended were given over to the custody of the Fort Major, and, on future occasions of a similar Nature, it will be only by such means that we can Effect the preservation of the Public Peace.

24. The encreasing Numbers of fugitives from Foreign Ships is an evil of considerable Magnitude, and hence we cannot but regret that the Police of Calcutta should still continue upon a footing not only inadequate to the Purposes of restraining the bold Attempts of licentious and desperate Men, and of providing for the Security of the community at large, but unauthorized, in it's active exertions, by any legal Sanction whatsoever.

25. In consequence of the orders, contained in your Letter of the 8th of April, received by the Hawke, we appointed a Committee for the Comptroll of the Expenditure of Stationery, Consn. 4th Feby. consisting of the two Secretaries of your Boards of Revenue and Trade, and of the Civil Auditor. The Committee have since suggested certain means of effecting the Purposes of their institution, in a Letter addressed to us on the occasion, and Recorded in our Proceedings of the 4th Ultimo.

26. The Bridge erected over the Creek, commonly known by the name of Tolley's Nullah, having fallen into a State of decay, the Acting Attornies of Mrs Tolley, the proprietor, were called upon by

us to rebuild it, as it appeared that the maintaining such a Bridge was one of the Conditions of the original grant. The Attornies accordingly transmitted to us a Plan for a new Bridge including a alight alternation of the course of the Nullah. which has been admitted.

27. We beg leave to refer to the Copy of a Letter from Lieutenant Colonel Kyd, on the Subject of Several Packages which he has requested us to forward to your Consn. 16th Feby. Hon'ble Court by the Warren Hastings; and we are also desirous of calling your attention to Letter addressed to us by that Gentleman, which you will find recorded on the Proceedings of the date annexed, in which he expresses some dissatisfaction at the neglect with which he conceived your Supra Cargoes at Canton had treated his application for assistance in the promotion of his Botanical pursuits. Those Gentlemen, had, however, in their Letter of the 10th of December (an Extract of which we had communicated to Lieutenant Colonel Kyd) expressed their Willingness to afford him every assistance in their Power. As the pursuits of the Superintendent of your Botanical Garden have not for their object the mere gratification of an Individual, but have a very commendable tendency to the promotion of Science, as well as of the National interest, we presume that you will think it necessary to instruct your Super Cargoes at Canton to pay, in future particular attention to all applications from us or Lieutenant Colonel Kyd on this Subject, so far as these may be consisten[t] with any orders they may have received from your Hon'ble Court.

28. A Copy of Mr. Fairlie's Contract for supplying your Presidency of Bombay with a Lack of Bags of Rice, attends you a number in the Packet.

29. In our Letter, by the William Pitt, we noticed the circumstances, under which Mr. Joseph Freith had been sent to Bengal by your Deputy Governor and Council at Fort - Marlbro' on the 17th February he addressed a Letter to us requesting to be permitted to embark with his Son on the Hawke as Charter party Passengers and we complied with his request.

30. The State of the Treasury is as follows.

Ready Money			
Gold Mohurs	15,604-6-0	2,49,670-0-0	289,617-3-2
iccas . . .		9,18,428-0-1	10,65,376-7-9
Copper Coin .	209,552-0-0	6,546-0-0	7,593-5-9
			<hr/>
			13,62,587-0-8

## LETTER TO COURT

Bills Receivable	2,911-12-3	3,377-10-4
Current Rupees		13,65,964-11-0
Unsorted Treasure		80,872-11-0
Balance Account Deposits	1,19,724-7-11	
„ Accountant General to the Mayor's Court	1,04,930-3-5	
„ Old Bond Debt on which the Interest has ceased by public Advertizement	36,102-0-2	
„ New Bond Debt	113,03,397-1-6	
„ Military Arrea [sic]	28,06,308-6-11	
„ Bombay Do.	17,57,942-6-8	
„ Loans taken up in 1790/91	808,059-5-6	
		1,69,36,464-0-1

We have the Honor to be & ca.

Fort William  
12th March 1791  
[Per Warren Hastings]

17

## LETTER DATED 10 AUGUST 1791

*Botanical Garden—dak to west India—Canton remittance and the case of Cotton—remittances to Bombay—rice contracts—bills on Bengal from Madras—hostility of the King of Kedah—relief for the Andanans—mint affairs—Nizam's stipends and debts—police reforms—place for acquiring geographical knowledge of India.*

To the Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Court of Directors & Ca.

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Sirs,

Ist. Having received Notice from the Governor in Council at Fort St. George that the Swallow Packet is under Dispatch from thence to England we avail ourselves of the opportunity, presented by it of forwarding to your Honourable Court a Duplicate of our last General Letter, from this Department, by the Warren Hastings, dated the 12th



of March, a Continuation of our Proceedings in the Months of March, April, May, June and July, with an Index, and the other papers as per List of Packet.

2d. On the 20th May we were honoured by the receipt of your General Letter dated the 10th November 1790, and conveyed by an overland Dispatch enclosing Copy of the Convention between his Majesty and the King of Spain, concluded at the Escorial on the 28th of the October preceding. On the 10th June we received from Madras your General Letter per Albion dated the 15th of December 1790, and on the 11th July that of the 4th\* March 1791 by the Alfred.

3d. We shall now lay before you our answer to your General Letters of the 15th of December 1790 and 4th of March 1791, that of the 10th of November not requiring any particular Notice, except that the very important and most agreeable Intelligence, conveyed by it of the Settlement of the Dispute with Spain was immediately notified, on the receipt of the Convention.

Answer to the General Letter of the 15th December per Albion

4th. Para. 1. Date of your last Dispatches. These Paragraphs do not require any particular answer.

2. Names of Writers  
in Part of the Num-  
ber agreed to be  
sent out last season }

5th Para. 3. Remit the Duties on the outward bound Investment of the officers of the Winterton and Lord Macartney. A copy of this Paragraph has been sent to your Board of Revenue, with the Necessary directions for carrying your intentions, expressed in into Effect.

6th Para. 4. Send out the Covenants of Mr. William Simpson, Junior Council to the Company, to be Executed and returned. The Death of Mr. William Simpson, and the appointment of Mr. W. Burroughs to be his successor were Noticed in our General Letter the Princess Amelia.

7th. (Para. 5 to 8) Noticing Paragraphs from hence, which required no orders. Mr. Robert Morris permitted to proceed as a Barister to Bengal. The Payment of 50,000 These Paragraphs do not require and particular answer.

\*14th March, as given in the original, is a clerical error.

Rs. over and above his salary, to Sir John Macpherson's attornies approved of, as consistent with the orders of the 8th of April 1789.

- 8th. (Para. 9) Lieutenant Colonel Kyd's remarks on the observations of Sir Joseph Banks, respecting the Botanical Garden will be submitted to Sir Joseph's perusal. Do not object to Mr. Thomas Hughes being employed in the Botanical Garden, or to the acceptance of the Services of Major Yvon to procure Plants from China. A copy of this Paragraph has been communicated to Lieutenant Colonel Kyd.
- 9th. Para. 10 to 17. Noticing Paragraphs of letters from hence, not requiring any orders upon them, Expressive of approbation; referring the answers to future Dispatches or to another Department, & ca. No answer is required to these Paragraphs.
- 10th. Para. 18. Approve of our Instructions to Bombay of the 4th of September 1789 for securing the Company against injury in the Transfer of Bombay Bonds. This Paragraph has been communicated to your accountant General, to whose Department it relates.
- 11th. Para. 19. Have already approved the Plan of a Dawk to the West of India To report annually the Charges attending and the profits arising from, it. The Post Master General has been furnished with the necessary orders on this subject, and our Secretary has been directed to afford him every assistance in his power in preparing the annual Report.
- 12th. Para. 20 & 21. The First referring the subject of a part of our Dispatches to the Political Department, the Second Noticing a Paragraph not requiring any orders. Need no reply.

- 13th. Para. 22. Defer giving any Directions relative to Prince of Wales Island, until the receipt of our final report concerning the New Settlement on the Andamans. On the Subject of this Paragraph we beg leave to observe that Captain Kyd's report on the new Settlement at the Andamans, has not yet been brought before us but 'tha', whenever we receive it, a Copy will be sent to your; Hon'ble Court.
- 14th. Para. 23 to 26. Referring to Dispatches in another Department, for an answer to a Paragraph from hence, and Expressive of approbation on different occasions. Do not require any answer.
- 15th. Para. 27. Approve the relief afforded to a vessel under the charge of some Natives of Pegue-hope there will be no difficulty in getting the amount reimbursed, as well as the Sum advanced some years ago by the Madras Government on account of another Ship of the King of Pegue. We can only express our concern that it is not yet in our power to offer you satisfactory information on the subject of this Paragraph tho' we have reason to suppose that the sum paid here for the relief of the Natives of Pegue will be reimbursed. The Debt from the King of Pegue to Madras is not yet discharged.
- 16th. Para. 28 to 32. Either Noticing Paragraphs from hence on which no orders are necessary, or Expressive of a decided opinion on different subjects. Do not require any answer.
- 17th. Para. 33. Mr. Marsh's Letter to Lieutenant Colonel Kyd will be referred to Sir Joseph Banks, as well as the report alluded to in the 70th Paragraph. A Copy of this Paragraph has been communicated to Lieutenant Colonel Kyd.
- 18th. Para. 34 to 38. Expressive of approbation on different occasions, referring to Do not require any answer.

another Department, or noticing Paragraphs of letters in this that do not require any orders.

- 19th. Para 39. Remark on the Complaint of the Bombay Government against the Remittances of 6 Lacks from Benares—Mr. Duncan exempt from Blame. This Paragraph has been communicated to the Resident at Benares.
- 20th. Para. 40 to 44. Observe that no reply is necessary on the different subjects to which these Paragraphs allude. Require no answer.
- 21st Para. 45. Have considered the correspondence, with Mrs. Tolley's attornies, respecting the new Bridge over the Nulla. The Company to be at no Expence on that account, as it is private Property. We need only refer you, on this Subject, to our former Dispatches by which you will observe that the new Bridge is to be erected at Mrs. Tolley's Expence.
- 22d. Para. 46 to 50. Either expressing approbation, or observing that no orders are required on the various points referred to. Need no reply.
- 23d. Para. 51. Have already approved of Mr. Tyler's Contracts to Supply Fort St. George and Tellicherry with Rice, approve also of our Engagements with him to pay money into the Madras Treasury. Wish expressed that Remittances could be made thither without Exporting Specie. Upon the subject of this Paragraph we may have occasion to address your Hon'ble Court at a future opportunity. We have not received any advice that the Balance due from Mr. Tyler, on his Engagement to pay money into the Madras Treasury, has been Liquidated; but have written to that Presidency, that we may be fully informed if any, and what amount yet remains unpaid.
- 24th. Para. 52 to 54. Observing that the Paragraphs of our Dispatches referred to Require no answer.

requiring orders, or to matters replied to before, or not calling for any reply & ca.

Answer to the General Letter dated the 4th of March 1791.

- 33d. Para, 1st. Transmit the Resolutions of the House of Commons on the subject of the War with Tippoo Sultan, and on the Treaties Concluded with the Nizam and Mahrattas, and desire that the same may be made generally known and communicated to the Residents at Poona and Hyderabad.
- In compliance with the directions contained in this Paragraph we caused the resolutions of the House of Commons to be published in a Gazette Extraordinary in the English and Country Language for the general information of the British Inhabitants and Natives and we also communicated them not only to the Resident at Poona and Hyderabad, but to the Resident with Madajee Scindia and the Resident at Lucknow.

#### Canton

34. Our latest advices from Canton are dated the 16th of January 1791, at which time it appeared that the different Engagements entered into for the remittance of 1789/90, had either been fulfilled, or were likely to be soon Completed. The apprehensions, which we mentioned in our Letter from this Department, by the William Pitt, as then existing relative to some accident having happened to the Nonsuch-Captain Canning, who was Subscriber to this Remittance to the amount of two Lacks of Ct. Rs. have since Subsided as we have heard by private accounts of his arrival at Batavia.

35. The Letter from Canton above referred to makes mention of a Balance outstanding against Captain John Lloyd, and another against Messrs Bayne, Colvins, and Bazett, on account of their respective Engagements for the year 1790. The former accounts for this deficiency, in a Letter recorded on the 16th of March, and the Causes of the deficient payment of the latter will appear, as stated by themselves in the proceedings noted in the Margin.

36. It was the opinion of our Accountant General, to whom we referred the information, which we had received from Canton, that the Company might be entitled to a Compensation for the loss which they must have sustained by this disappointment, but, on consulting the Advocate General, he declared that where no particular penalty is fixed, and

agreed on between the parties Contracting no Compensation can be demanded beyond the legal interest of the money, unless it can be proved that an Actual loss has been sustained by the disappointment, in which Case the amount of such loss would be the measure of the Compensation.

37. In calling upon Messrs Colvins and Bazett. and Captain John Lloyd, to make good their Engagements from the  
 Consn. 27th April, period when they ought to have been Completed till the date of repayment, at the rate of the 12 per Cent. tho' the Promissory Notes, in which the advances were made to them bore an Interest of 6 per cent only, we were also guided by the opinion of the Advocate General, whose Letter on the Subject is recorded on the Proceedings referred to in the Margin.

38. Having reason to believe, from the representations both of Captain Lloyd and Messrs. Colvins and Bezett, that effectual Measures  
 Consn 27th April. have been taken by them to make good their respective deficiencies, we shall wait for further advices before we proceed to make the final Demand upon them on this account. Captain Lloyd's Balance amounts to Ct Rs. 46, 641-4 and that of Messrs Colvins and Bazett to Current Rupees 13,010.

39. Since our advices by the William Pitt, when the amount of Proposals, accepted by us, was Rs. 22,30,000 we have received, and accepted proposals to a further Extent. The whole amount of the remittance of this season, supposing it to be Completely realized, and exclusive of an offer for near a Lack of Rupees to be paid into the Treasury at Canton, Certificates being granted for such payments, will not fall short of Current Rupees 23,98,151-4-1. This ample supply, which we have reason to believe will much surpass the expectations of your Hon'ble Court, we deemed the more necessary, as from the Correspondence with your Supra Cargoes at Canton it appeared doubtful whether their usual provision of Bullion from Europe this Season, would not be withheld. In addition to the above, an offer, which we have accepted, was made to us by Mr. Fairlie, to pay into the Treasury at Bombay 60,000 Dollars, to be forwarded from thence to Canton by the Ships of the Season. Your Accountant General, to whom Mr. Fairlie's Proposal was referred; reported it to be about 2 per cent better than those we accepted in December 1790

40. It is with the greatest concern that we find ourselves under the necessity of laying before you a Transaction, (connected with subject of the China remittance), in the course of which there

49 The letter addressed to us by Mr. Cotton on this occasion enclosed several affidavits, sworn by himself and Messrs Mair, Cock and Shephard, the two former connected with him occasionally at least, in Business, tho' (until the late transactions threw more light on the nature of their Connexion) it was not generally understood that Cotton, Mair, and Cock was an Established firm,—the latter, a Clerk employed in his office, or Compting House.

50. Messrs Mair and Cock it is to be observed, were together with Mr Collie a Surgeon in your Service, the Securities proposed by Mr. Cotton and accepted by us (the Credit of Consn. 29th June. the Parties at that time being unimpeached) for the Remittance of four Lacks of Rupees to be made by Mr. Cotton, as Agent for Mr. Stephenson, and the Principal object intended by these affidavits was to impress a belief (an attempt already made by Messrs Mair and Cock in a Letter addressed to us on the 27th and recorded on the 29th June) that Mr. Stephenson was fully apprized in the month of February last of the use which Mr. Cotton had made of his name in the preceding Month of December when acting for him under a power of Attorney of which tho' they could not pretend to assert the validity, they professed themselves able to prove that it had undergone the approbation of Mr. Jackson, the Company's Attorney.

51. Mr. Jackson in Answer to a reference, which was necessarily made to him on the Subject, and is recorded on the Proceedings of the 6th Ultimo not only declares that he had expressed no such approbation as is imputed to him but the [that] he informed Mr. Cotton himself (after sending to him for the Power, at the Request of another Gentleman, some days after the Engagements had been executed and transmitted to Government) that there was not in that Power (which however he had not before seen) any clause authorizing Mr. Cotton to execute Deeds, or Bonds, or take up Money for Captain Stephenson. The alledged Knowledge of Captain Stephenson, imparted to him, casually, two months after the transaction, and not pretended to have been communicated even then by the party, whose peculiar duty it was to have made such Communication, even had his powers been as regular as they were insufficient in point of legal competency, does not, we are sorry to observe, operate so much to the exculpation of Mr. Cotton as to increase in such a degree, the apparent ambiguity of his Conduct, as nothing but a legal Investigation can fully bring to Light.

52. In this Stage of the transaction, it became our duty to adopt such measures, as should be best calculated to secure the Company from the Loss, in which the Conduct of Mr. Cotton seemed likely

to involve them—a Provision had been made by him, it now appeared. of a quantity of opium and Chintz, for the purpose of effecting the remittance which he undertook in the name of Mr. Stephenson, tho' by far the greater part of both these articles, so provided had been Mortgaged to different persons for the purpose of immediate relief from the Complicated embarrassments, in which Mr. Cotton had involved himself and his Commercial Connexions.

53. It now also appeared that, on the 29th of June, the very day of Mr. Cotton's escape to Fredericksnagore, Messrs Mair & Cock, as joint Proprietors with Mr. Cotton, executed  
 Ccnsn. 1st July. Deeds of assignment to Mr. Collie, one of the securities for the China Remittance, of the opium and Chintz above-mentioned, as well as of other property, a List of which as delivered by Mr. Davidson, Attorney to Mr. Collie, to the Company's Attorney, who was authorized by us to receive the property if tendered, attends you a Number in the Packet.

54. The various points of legal reference, which now occurred, in the course of this Transaction, and the different Resolutions we came to, attending closely on every occasion, to the opinion of the Advocate General, are Continued  
 Consn. 1st July. throughout almost every Consultation held by us  
 13th Do. in the Course of the Month of July; but, for your  
 22d Do. more particular Satisfaction, and that we may bring  
 29th Do. this intricate Subject more closely and Connectedly before you, we shall forward Extracts from the Proceedings of the dates annexed, as Numbers in the Packet.

55. Mr. Collie's right to the Property, made over to him under the assignment already mentioned, having been clearly established, we were at liberty to attend to the proposal, he had made to us, that we would indemnify the mortgages of the Chintz and Opium (being a Part of that assignment) with a view to enable him to effect the Remittance, for which he was security, by transmitting those articles to China on the John (a vessel which was also part of the assigned property) under the Charge of Captain Stephenson, in whose name the Remittance had been originally obtained.

56. With a view, however, to ascertain the quality of the Opium, we reduced four Gentlemen, who were considered as Competent Judges, to Report upon it. They inspected it and declared it's quality to be perfectly good. Another question then arose, whether it would be more advantageous to dispose of the opium in Calcutta or dispose of it to the Eastward, and three of the same Gentlemen (being the only Mercantile Men of the Number who had reported